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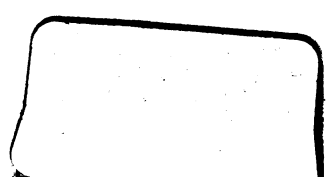
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M. W. Y







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## REVERIES OF A PARAGRAPHER

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# REVERIES OF A PARAGRAPHER

BY

M. W. L.

*'Jests—Brain-fleas which jump about among the slumbering ideas.'*

—HEINE.

"There is many a true word spoken in jest."—OLD SAW.

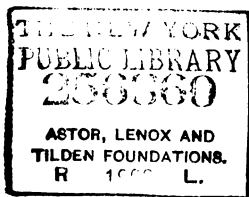
LONDON

T. FISHER UNWIN

PATERNOSTER SQUARE

MDCCCXCVII

1897



*[All rights reserved.]*

*Many of the paragraphs of which this little book is composed, originally appeared in many papers; not a few have been extensively copied. I have collected, revised, and published them in their present form at the earnest solicitation of my enemies.*

*All rights reserved—even the right to dramatise.*



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## SOLEMN THOUGHTS

IN the music of life man blows the bellows, woman touches the keys.



Ambition and the thermometer always move in opposite directions.



Fame, like a four-leaved clover, is oftener found by those who do not seek it than by those who do.



April 1st is the day dedicated to fools who think they are wise.



The sweetest chamber music is a mother's low lullaby.



## REVERIES OF A PARAGRAPHER

Politeness is one-half good nature  
and the other half good lying.



The exit of the *corp de ballet*  
always seems like a *nude-de-parture*.



In the Cornell Library of 40,000  
volumes there are no novels. There  
is, however, plenty of fiction in the  
histories and philosophies.



Practise self-restraint; an angry  
debater is as ineffective as an  
edged tool which has lost its  
temper.



Generosity is a virtue possessed  
in a marked degree by people who  
never pay their bills.




The chief difference between a flea  
and a wasp is found in the fact that,  
when you put your finger on a wasp,  
he is always there.




## SOLEMN THOUGHTS


The "line of beauty" is a curve something like the letter S, but it attracts more attention when it has two parallel lines drawn through it, thus—\$.



How closely humour is allied to pathos is illustrated by the fact that tears are the symbols of both the greatest joy and the deepest grief.



"Two souls with but a single thought" means that the parties are thinking that they have been single long enough.



Stories first heard at a mother's knee are never wholly forgotten.—*Ruskin.*

But rules of conduct first enforced at the same place leave a far more vivid impression.

## REVERIES OF A PARAGRAPHER

Nature made a great mistake when she gave cats nine lives and turkeys only one.

—\*—\*—\*

Dame Nature never fails to give every creature some weapon of offence and defence. She gave babies lungs and women tears.

—\*—\*—\*

A writer's style should permit of an easy entrance into his field of thought.

—\*—\*—\*

As civilisation triumphs over barbarism in far western settlements, the pistol gradually disappears from the belt into the hip pocket.

—\*—\*—\*

An overloaded stomach is unfavourable to brain-work, and civilisation wisely provides that people who do the most brain-work shall seldom be troubled in that way.

## SOLEMN THOUGHTS

Men who make no pretensions to being good on one day out of every seven are called sinners.

—\*—\*—

Forty years ago the first missionary was eaten on the Fiji Islands.

To-day forty thousand young Fijians attend Sunday School.

All the waste places of the world could be Christianised in the same way, but the trouble is to make a beginning.

Missionaries willing to start the ball rolling, or rather the pot boiling, are very rare, and they would rather stay rare than be well done.

—\*—\*—

The costume for the Mephistopheles in opera is never complete without a cloak.

—\*—\*—

The Rev. Joseph Cooke says that it is safe enough to marry on a

## REVERIES OF A PARAGRAPHER

four weeks' courtship. His theory probably is that a woman who can fool a man into thinking her an angel for four weeks will be smart enough to keep up the delusion for an indefinite period.



As a rule, a "swell" is a youth who inherits his father's hard-earned cash, but not his brains.



The hours fly so fast as we grow older that it sometimes seems as if Father Time had traded his sickle for a bicycle.



There is no pleasure in having nothing to do ; the fun is in having lots to do—and not doing it.



The knowledge that "virtue is its own reward" may perhaps account

## SOLEMN THOUGHTS

for the fact that so few persons take the trouble to reward it.



America is called a republic, yet it is largely governed by lobby queens and railroad kings.



Many a cat has been killed by care—care in aiming the bootjack.



The penalty of success is to be bored by the attentions of people who formerly snubbed you.



The almshouse is paved with lost opportunities.



The national tune of America is the spit-toon.



True religion is like wisdom ; the more we have, the less we parade it.

## REVERIES OF A PARAGRAPHER

Street cars on night lines are stopped by the day-break.



Archery is now so popular, I sincerely hope something will be done to save our forests from further depletion. It takes so much lumber to make a mark big enough for a fair archer to hit, that some other material should be found at once.



The modern idea of art, as applied to interior decoration, may be understood by looking at a schoolboy's slate after he has filled it with pictures. The idea is "to suggest Nature, not to imitate it."



A German writer says: "Almost all great poets, artists, or scholars have led a more or less unhappy domestic life." Now half the men in this world will imagine themselves great poets, artists, or scholars.

## SOLEMN THOUGHTS

Now that it is known that the revised edition of the Bible will contain the same old Ten Commandments, fair-weather Christians have lost all interest in it.

-x-x-x-

Sharks seldom attack a man in a bathing suit. It is as easy to scare sharks as crows.

-x-x-x-

A large majority of the regular church-goers are women. Would the case be reversed if women did the preaching?

-x-x-x-

The unities of decorative art demand that people who do not pay their bills should have everything painted dun colour.

-x-x-x-

Wearing the hat too much makes men bald-headed. The youths who put on their hats and rush out of the theatre between every act become bald sooner than they who remain indoors.



## REVERIES OF A PARAGRAPHER

In Law twelve men are drawn by lot to try one man for distributing goods by lot.

—\*—\*—\*

Chestnut-trees are greatly neglected in this country. Every grove should be given about one cartload of ver-mifuge.

—\*—\*—\*

Englishmen call America "a nation of humorists," but this is a mis-nomer. We are merely not a nation of dullards—that is all the difference.

## SOBER SECOND THOUGHTS

LIFE is full of low bridges and open switches.

—\*—\*—

A small white hand with tapering fingers may denote that the owner is a scion of a noble house, or that he is a pickpocket.

—\*—\*—

The Philadelphians want a pleasure road in Fairmount Park, and yet it is seriously proposed to give them a gravity road.

—\*—\*—

It is sad to reflect that the heroes of the Revolution never knew what it was to put a pack of fire-crackers under an old dish-pan.

## REVERIES OF A PARAGRAPHER

The ancients took the owl for a symbol of wisdom, because he always minds his own business—a characteristic which fools never possess.

—\*—\*—

The bravest toreador in Spain would be nonplussed by an Irish bull.

—\*—\*—

The amount of old jokes in the newspapers is distressing enough, but they are the quintessence of original humour compared to the sallies of prehistoric wit with which nearly every social gathering is enlivened.

—\*—\*—

Men like Ingersoll generally lead almost blameless lives, so far as their social relations are concerned, in order to prove that a man may be an infidel, and yet not absolutely bad. It is a pity that many who profess to be Christians are not equally as anxious to make converts by example.

## SOBER SECOND THOUGHTS

No promenade, however smooth and level, possesses such a fascination for deaf people as a railroad track.

—\*—

In olden times the spare pennies were kept in ornamental urns on the mantelpiece ; hence the proverb — “A penny saved is a penny urned.”

—\*—

The man who cannot be happy with a true woman should keep out of Heaven. He would be just as miserable there.

—\*—

Aim high, but not higher than your gun will carry.

—\*—

European tourists complain that American curiosity - hunters hack away at every old castle and unprotected monument they can find. Our cousins across the water can easily retaliate by coming to this

#### REVERIES OF A PARAGRAPHER

country, and taking a hack at Niagara Falls.

-x-x-x-

Friendship is seldom tested, because few persons get so far down in the world as to be compelled to ask favours which they can never return.

-x-x-x-

Santa Claus should not be described as short and fat. He is a man of fine "presents."

-x-x-x-


So many men are killed off by wars that the women would soon outnumber the men were it not for one of Nature's wise provisions—kerosene oil.

-x-x-x-


The English language is rich in synonymous terms. A mechanic in search of work is "out of a job"; a clerk in the same predicament is "disengaged"; and a professional man similarly placed is "at leisure."

## SOBER SECOND THOUGHTS


The mechanic "gets work"; the clerk "connects" himself with some establishment; and the professional man "resumes" practice.



A purely classical education is like an old secretary filled with ancient manuscripts — a great pleasure to the owner, but of little value in the market.



Carlyle lent the manuscript of his "History of the French Revolution" to a friend, through whose negligence a servant used it for kindling a fire. In all probability that servant was one of the kind who want six nights out a week, an afternoon off, and a house with all the modern improvements.



The Irish landlords want the Game Laws in that country revised. They have become tired of being the game.

## REVERIES OF A PARAGRAPHER

People who have a fine command of language can be as affectionately eloquent as a dog with a long tail.

-x-x-x-

An open fire, a kettle simmering upon the hob, and a paper of sugar-plums on the mantelpiece, formed Sydney Smith's recipe for cheerfulness. I have a recipe worth a hundred of that, and it calls for no open fire, no kettle, and no sugar-plums, unless the chief ingredients in my recipe should happen to want them.

-x-x-x-

Old letter paper, torn into narrow strips and curled with a knife or over a knitting-needle, is an excellent material for stuffing pillows. Young ladies contemplating matrimony can thus make a poetic use of the love-letters received from all their old sweethearts.

-x-x-x-

All the world's a stage and men

## SOBER SECOND THOUGHTS

and women merely passengers. Fate does the driving.

-x-x-x-

Instead of a statue of Washington in Wall Street, the operators should erect a monument to Robinson Crusoe's henchman, Black Friday.

-x-x-x-

Kissing games have gone out of fashion, and the young people of to-day may well sigh for a return to the primitive customs of their ancestors.

-x-x-x-

The world is full of people who talk so much of what they can do, and what they intend to accomplish, but they never have time to begin.

-x-x-x-

It is all very well to talk about the American eagle, and all that, but the eagle won't save sea-coast cities from being bombarded in case



## REVERIES OF A PARAGRAPHER

of war with a foreign country, unless, of course, the eagles are used to purchase a navy.

—\*—\*—

Judging from the descriptions of tobogganing in Canada, it must be a devotional kind of exercise. All you have to do is to hold your breath and trust to Providence.

—\*—\*—

Delaware people believe in a free press, free schools, and freeze peach.

—\*—\*—

America is acknowledged to be unrivalled in labour-saving machinery, bread-stuffs, pumpkins, and girls.

—\*—\*—

A mean action by a professor of religion does greater harm to the cause of morality than the blackest sin of an infidel ; just as a speck of dust in a glass of clear water is more

## SOBER SECOND THOUGHTS

perceptible to the eye than a bottle of ink in mid-ocean.



The first great trial in life comes when a young man has invested all his savings in a box at the theatre, and then his girl spends the whole evening throwing tender glances at the leading actor.



The word "God" cannot be found in the constitution, because it was thought best to put it in a more conspicuous place—on the almighty dollar.



When an Englishman goes to Washington, and asks to see some of the old ruins, they show him the Washington monument.



A demagogue is a man who takes off his hat to the people and then expects the people to drop pennies into it for his good condescension.

## REVERIES OF A PARAGRAPHER

It is surprising how we are all willing to take chances on drawing a camel through the eye of a needle.

-x-x-x-

Never try to appear what you are not. It deceives no one worth deceiving and is ruinously expensive.

-x-x-x-

When the parlour fire is in a state of coma, as it were, it is time to put colon.

-x-x-x-

Every husband should husband his resources. Not having money enough to buy a ton of coal is apt to be followed by a coolness in the family.

-x-x-x-

Treat every one with kindness and consideration. There is no telling who may be the next one to fall heir to a fortune from some forgotten uncle.

## SOBER SECOND THOUGHTS

An Indian Reservation is a piece of land ceded to the red man with the reservation that if it is ever found to contain mineral wealth, or can be of any use whatever to the white man, the Indian must move on.

—\*—\*—\*

While on this subject it may also be remarked that when the Indians complain that provisions of an agreement with them are not carried out, they mean that the provisions are not carried out far enough for the red man to get hold of them, and it must be confessed that this is often the case.

—\*—\*—\*

An English traveller in the Holy Land, it is said, has discovered Jacob's Well, and it is painful to reflect that, as it is not an oil well, the discovery has created very little excitement.

#### REVERIES OF A PARAGRAPHER

There is a possibility in time the American Indian may become a citizen of his native land. Foreigners and the descendants of foreigners are talking about it very seriously.

## DOMESTIC BLISS

A YOUNG husband who fancies that he dislikes his mother-in-law experiences a sudden revulsion of feeling when his first-born begins to lisp "Grandma."

-x-x-x-

The waters of Niagara speak with sad eloquence to the happy bride. The river above the falls represents the honeymoon; that below suggests what may soon be expected.

-x-x-x-

Russian students are forbidden to marry. Experience has proved that a man cannot walk the floor all night with a teething baby and know all his lessons the next morning.

## REVERIES OF A PARAGRAPHER

A couple were married at Newport after a courtship of thirty-five years. Instead of marrying in haste to repent at leisure, they sensibly waited until they had some chance of dying of old age before the honeymoon was over.



Marriage makes men marvellously modest. The youth who would run the risk of a dozen eyes to snatch a kiss from his sweetheart becomes so shy after he has been married a few years that few persons ever get a chance to see him kiss his wife.



If domestic storms must come, let them end with a rainbow kiss.



Women complain, and with justice, that the husband soon ceases to be the lover. In illustration of this one might cite the fact that the lover will write yards of sonnets to

## DOMESTIC BLISS

his adored one's hair, but when, after marriage, he finds one of those "threads of gleaming gold" in his soup, he gets mad.

-x-x-x-

The Methodist ministers of Cincinnati have pronounced against the College of Music in that city, because it teaches opera airs. The ministers are doing perfectly right. If there is anything more calculated to induce profanity than to hear amateur vocalists trying to reach high F in an opera air, I have yet to find it.

-x-x-x-

Long life depends on peace and quietness. Health, unlike fruit, cannot be preserved in family jars.

-x-x-x-

The woman who "marries a man to get rid of him" knows what she is about. She has observed that the man who spends every evening in the week with his sweetheart, be-



## REVERIES OF A PARAGRAPHER

comes so engrossed in business after marriage that he can scarcely ever be at home, except at meal-time.



It is a fortunate thing that so many marriages occur in the spring. Few engagements can withstand the tempests of summer croquet, and the fearful disclosures of the bathing season.



The yoke of matrimony is sometimes very heavy, but a little child can lift it.



Happy marriages are not made in Heaven, but Heaven is made in happy marriages.



A woman generally gives her husband for a Christmas present something he can use himself, but in nine cases out of ten a man gives his wife a piece of furniture which can be used by the whole family.

## DOMESTIC BLISS

It is difficult to tell which gives some couples the most happiness, the minister who marries them, or the judge who divorces them.

—\*—\*—

When the unpaid grocer comes in at the door romance flies out of the window.

—\*—\*—

The honeymoon generally ends where the burnt beefsteak begins.

—\*—\*—

A home without children is no doubt very peaceful and quiet, but so is a graveyard.

—\*—\*—

It is better to have loved and lost than to be obliged to get up at five o'clock on cold winter mornings to start the fire.

—\*—\*—

An old shoe may be the proper thing at a wedding, but about the time the tin wedding comes around an old slipper is most useful.

## REVERIES OF A PARAGRAPHER

One half the domestic misery of the world is caused by men who drink and women who can't cook.

—\*—\*—

The contented man is he who has a contented wife.

—\*—\*—

When a man begins to wish for death, it is a pretty good sign that he has given up all hope of finding a wife, or has been married a good while.

—\*—\*—

When a man speaks harshly into a phonograph, he expects the machine to fling back his words in the same tone, but when he speaks harshly to his wife, he expects her answer to be as soft and sweet as usual, just as if a woman has not as much right to talk back as a phonograph.

—\*—\*—

It seldom happens that a second husband is haunted by the ghost of

## DOMESTIC BLISS

the first. The ghost probably thinks husband No. 2 has trouble enough.



Two heads are generally considered better than one, but it is not so in a family, where one head is always enough; the only question is on whose shoulders it should be.



The cross of matrimony is a cross baby.



The best wedding present always comes from paterfamilias himself: he gives away the bride.



The favourite colour of jealous wives is paris-green.



In matrimonial mathematics husband and wife, though two persons, are one, and in the course of a year there is generally one to carry.

## REVERIES OF A PARAGRAPHER

The reason that a man nearly always goes to some other town for a wife, is this: The girls in his town remember the time when he used to pinch them, pull their hair, tie tin kettles to dogs' tails, swing cats over a clothes-line, and stone bull frogs. They won't have him.



Some old songs are still popular. Before marriage he sings, "Come, sit by my side, little darling," after marriage she sings, "Don't you go, Tommy, don't go."



A new invention is reported from Turin. It consists in the application of light-giving materials to printing ink, by which print becomes luminous in the dark, so that in future it will be possible to read at night in bed, or during a journey, without the assistance of candle or lamp. But even this invention will not give writers a luminous style, though I

## DOMESTIC BLISS

admit that it will light up the most obscure portions of their articles.



The law of matrimony—the older and wealthier the groom, the younger and prettier the bride.



Family affection is a tender and beautiful plant, which cannot be too carefully nurtured. So stop smoking before it is choked by the weed, and do not water it with alcohol.



The worst thing that can happen to a family is a divorce suit. Though a couple may not be happy they should never dis-pair.



If there are no marriages in the next world, then what is the meaning of that hymn beginning “Ring the belles of Heaven”?

## REVERIES OF A PARAGRAPHER

The French law does not recognise promises to marry, and quite a number of eminent Frenchmen seem anxious to have it changed so that it will not recognise marriages either.



Miss Elmy of Edinburgh says the married woman "is the only servant who receives no wages," but neglects to add that the married man is the only slave who has not been emancipated.



A writer says: "No cord or cable can draw so forcibly or bind so fast as love can with a single thread." That is true, provided the thread is used for sewing on buttons.

## MAN AND WOMAN

LOVERS' oaths should not be broken :  
husbands' oaths should not be  
spoken.



Beware of the man who always  
sings the loudest and prays the  
longest at a prayer-meeting. He is  
addressing himself chiefly to the  
congregation.



Beware of the girl who is afraid  
to let her little brother have a  
confidential chat with you.



Nothing makes a bride so mad as  
to have the society reporter refer to  
her as "talented and estimable."  
All the world knows that had she  
been even passably good-looking,



#### REVERIES OF A PARAGRAPHER

he would have used the adjectives, "beautiful and accomplished."

\*\*\*

Woman is a mystery and man is a conundrum. But the mystery answers the conundrum and invariably has the last word.

\*\*\*

He who devotes sixteen hours a day to hard study may become as wise at sixty as he thought himself at twenty.

\*\*\*

Women are dangerous. Men are often struck by their beauty, wounded by their coquetry, carried away by their conversation, and flattened out by their extravagance.

\*\*\*

Most men choose their wives as they would partners for a dance, but in selecting a business partner they exercise some caution.

## MAN AND WOMAN

An economical housewife is one who spends less for dress in a year than her husband spends on himself and friends in a month.

-\*\*\*-

Men who are very fond of blowing their own trumpet should take a few lessons from nature. The voice of one very independent animal cannot be heard any further than its ears can be seen.

-\*\*\*-

Though all the world turn against a man, his faithful wife will but cling the closer; but let her once find a long and unknown hair on his coat-collar, and all the world cannot convince her that it got there by accident.

-\*\*\*-

Women who have not sense enough to take bread should marry rich, or some day they may not have cents enough to buy it.

## REVERIES OF A PARAGRAPHER

It looks odd to see a member of the female branch of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals wearing a stuffed bird in her hat.



Some men are like circular saws, very good in their way, but apt to "cut" some people who are too familiar with them.



A girl with a chin dimple can let her affianced kiss her golden hair without having her chin hurt by the diamond stud on his manly bosom. The dimple was designed by nature to fit the stud.



The force of habit is finely illustrated by the well-known fact that a woman's will is seldom contested.



Free-lovers are so called to distinguish them from the other lovers who are slaves.

## MAN AND WOMAN

Prudery is not modesty, but immodesty masquerading.

-x-x-x-

No man ever planned a noble action with a cold in his head.

-x-x-x-

The way to judge woman is to compare her with women, not with angels.

-x-x-x-

The young miss who strumps the piano while her mother washes the dishes, will some day be telling her grand-children how she used to work when she was a girl.

-x-x-x-

There was once a man who always told his wife all the news when he got home in the evening. Being one of Nature's monstrosities he died without issue.

-x-x-x-

If a man does not make new acquaintances as he advances through life, he will soon find himself left alone. If he does make new ac-

## REVERIES OF A PARAGRAPHER

quaintances he will be left alone anyhow if he becomes poor, and worried to death by borrowers if he is rich.

—\*—\*—

A Michigan man was arrested and fined ten dollars for hugging a widow, but how it was found out is a mystery.

—\*—\*—

The only golden thing that women dislike is silence.

—\*—\*—

Some men would commit suicide if they did not have some woman around to blame all their troubles on.

—\*—\*—

A Philadelphia housekeeper has lost all interest in the New Jerusalem. She has heard that its streets are paved with pure gold, and the pavements never need washing.

—\*—\*—

Some women never love: some birds never sing.

## MAN AND WOMAN

A romantic maiden, who paints old china, and collects bric-à-brac, has such a love for the antique, that she is going to marry a rich old widower.

-x-x-x-

Nature evidently intended that woman should be both good and beautiful, for she is not permitted to have a beard to cover up the facial indications of wickedness. There being no hope for man, he was allowed this privilege, so that the human race would not die out.

-x-x-x-

A well-known antiquarian who married a young widow, says she is the most interesting relict he has ever found.

-x-x-x-

The world is made up of many men of many minds, but there is one thing that all agree on—one's own sister is never half so interesting as some other fellow's sister.

## REVERIES OF A PARAGRAPHER

The woman who laughs at love is a hypocrite or a monster, the man who laughs at love is a fool or a knave.



Some men are like the moon, never brilliant until they are full, like the moon, too, they are frequently under a cloud, and periodically get to their last quarter.



Human flesh is opaque, and yet it is easier to see through a fat man, than a slender woman.



A boy who had been masquerading in woman's clothes for a long time was at last exposed. Some one noticed that he could sharpen a pencil.



The woman who sits up and cries because her husband is kept very late at the lodge does not bring him home any sooner, and only makes her nose as red as his.

## MAN AND WOMAN

It would never do to elect women to all offices. If a female sheriff should visit the residence of a handsome man and explain to his jealous wife that she had an attachment for him, there would be a vacancy in that office in about two minutes.

—\*—\*—

The heroine of a popular novel is described as so timid that "she would faint at the sight of a mouse." That author knows very little about feminine nature. No woman was ever known to faint at the sight of a mouse. The most timid jump the highest and scream the loudest.

—\*—\*—

Quilting bees are going out of fashion. The women who can sew are dying of old age.

—\*—\*—

Many a man will neglect his business and waste several hours of precious time giving a friend advice which he won't take, yet feel too poor to lend him a quarter.



## REVERIES OF A PARAGRAPHER

A Vassar College girl, who took the first prize for mathematics, is still under the impression that a good shoemaker can get six into two.

—\*—\*—

It is easy to tell a total abstainer from a man who gets tipsy occasionally. The latter when sober walks as straight as a bee-line ; the former meanders all over the pavement.

—\*—\*—

A beautiful woman without vanity or selfishness is as rare as a great man without modesty.

—\*—\*—

Woman can bear disappointment better than man. When a woman goes fishing and does not catch anything she rises superior to man and does not lie about it.

—\*—\*—

The difference between an English ball-room dress and the costume of an Indian squaw is that one is too short at the top and the other too short at the bottom.

## MAN AND WOMAN

The weaker sex is anything but weak under some circumstances. A woman can put down a carpet, tend the baby, and cook a meal at the same time—but a man cannot even tack a carpet without having all the rest of the family to help him.

—\*—\*—

A Philadelphia belle flirting with an old bachelor was asked if she was not “playing with fire.” “No,” was the reply, “only stirring up the embers.”

—\*—\*—

The most difficult position a middle-aged man can be placed in is to meet a maiden lady whom he knew in his boyhood days, and avoid mentioning how many years it is since they played blind-man’s-buff together.

—\*—\*—

American women differ from the women of other nations in possessing the sense of smell. In no other

## REVERIES OF A PARAGRAPHER

country do men chew cloves after drinking.

—\*—\*—

One of the rights of which women are deprived is the right to walk the streets in a last year's dress without being insolently stared at by every other woman she meets.

—\*—\*—

The severest test of true love is reached when a man has to decide between renouncing his prize or enduring the tortures of a fashionable wedding.

—\*—\*—


Gossips are the most accommodating creatures in existence ; they even blush for each other.

—\*—\*—


It is remarkable how generous fishermen are. When you meet a man who has returned from a fishing trip he always tells you that he gave his share to the other fellow.

## MAN AND WOMAN


A peal of belles—the rippling laughter of a group of pretty women.



The most conservative people in the world are old maids ; they never like new wrinkles.



Woman has one right which man has not. When she drives a horse through a crowded street she always has the right of the road, or what amounts to the same thing, for every other driver does his best to get out of her way. It is more gallant—and safer.



Women with large feet have more delicate skins than women with small feet. Those with large feet will not go out on a breezy day lest the wind spoil their complexions, but those with small feet are not afraid of a hurricane.

## LUGUBRIOUS LUCUBRATIONS

THE sewerage system in Paris cannot be so complete as has been claimed. None of Zola's novels have been carried away.

—\*—\*—

Lives of rich men all remind us  
We may mighty fortunes make,  
And on dying leave behind us  
Wills for relatives to break.

—\*—\*—

What's a ship without a captain—  
to explain how it all happened?

—\*—\*—

Holland is the ferry - land of  
Europe.

—\*—\*—

Employment for the mind is what  
thousands are in need of, and a mind  
for their employment is what  
thousands more are in need of.

## LUGUBRIOUS LUCUBRATIONS

A Norwich (Ct.) man, aged ninety-four, has buried seven family physicians. He lures them into tasting the medicine they prescribe for him, and then throws what is left out of the window. All the dogs in that place are dead too.



There is one thing to be said in favour of croquet. It is seldom played on Sunday; it costs too much to wall in the front yard.



Some people seem to think that if they go to church on Sunday morning, they can be as mean as they please during the rest of the day, forgetting the fact that they should remember the Sabbath day to keep it wholly.



A machine for making pies has been patented, but the inventor forgot to add an appliance for digesting them.

## REVERIES OF A PARAGRAPHER

Times have changed. The wise man now sigheth: Oh, that mine enemy would run for office!



To get rid of a bore—try to borrow money of him.



A newly-arrived Frenchman hearing that Cincinnati was the Paris of America, went there to live. The Cincinnati papers innocently said the next morning, "there was no apparent cause for the rash act."



An experienced physician says when you wake in the morning rise and dress at once. Never lie and "drowse." If there is anything real pleasant that experienced physicians are willing to advise, I should like to hear it.



It is an easy matter to keep cool at a fashionable summer resort. Even if the thermometer should get far up among the nineties, you can

## LUGUBRIOUS LUCUBRATIONS

experience the delights of a cold chill by calling for your board bill.

—\*—\*—

A condemned man, who was not sure he was going straight to heaven, has been hanged. He should have had a new trial, for the probability is that he was innocent. People who actually commit murder never seem to have any doubts about their future salvation.

—\*—\*—

A society for political education is one of the latest things out. Heretofore the latest thing out has been the man who was obtaining his political education in the old-fashioned way.

—\*—\*—

Procrastination is the thief of time ; time is money ; and money makes the mare go.

—\*—\*—

The usual way of celebrating the Fourth of July is not patriotic but idiotic.



## REVERIES OF A PARAGRAPHER

Never give way to the first attack of spring fever. Force yourself to take exercise until the flies become sufficiently numerous to afford the needed incentive to exertion.

—\*—\*—

If some one would only induce the mosquitoes to join a temperance society, there are many men who could keep the light burning and the windows open all night without being bitten.

—\*—\*—

Bicycle riding should be encouraged, for it is conducive to temperance. A man may travel in a carriage or on horseback and stop at every wayside inn, but no one ever heard of a man coming home drunk in a bicycle.

—\*—\*—

Cain's punishment was swift and his retribution terrible. There were no sentimental juries and no lecture bureaus in those days.

## LUGUBRIOUS LUCUBRATIONS

Thrilling and sanguinary romances which make the blood run cold are the best summer reading.

—\*—\*—

Do not waste time in pleasure or recreation ; do not spend a moment with your family that can be given to business ; do not allow your money-making schemes to leave your mind for an instant, and even when asleep try to dream of them. Force every man to pay up to the last dollar, with interest.

—\*—\*—

You may not be happy, you may not go to heaven, but you can have a costly gravestone.

—\*—\*—

Henry Ward Beecher is of the opinion that spring bonnets can do no harm to church members, and he is right. It is not the wearing of a spring bonnet, but the necessity of appearing in last winter's bonnet, that creates envy, malice, and all uncharitableness.

## JOURNALISM

MANY a would-be statesman, who thinks he could write volumes on the needs of the nation, would exhaust himself in a half a column editorial, and then have said nothing new.



Few newspaper men reach three-score and ten—but then few want to.



The man with a club is one of the wise provisions of nature intended to relieve the monotony of daily journalism. As a rule, he does no damage, while he gives the staff much-needed amusement and exercise.



A press club is an association of journalists who club together and hire rooms. Those who are regularly employed on newspapers never have

## JOURNALISM

time to visit the rooms, and those who are not employed never pay any dues. That is why press clubs generally fail.

—\*—\*—

Newspaper men should mark the wide difference which separates their profession from mere trade, by always giving credit, whether it is asked or not.

—\*—\*—

Paris editors lead a dual life—one in the sanctum and the other in the suburbs.

—\*—\*—

Very large newspapers are called "blanket sheets," because they are not of much use except when people wish to sleep.

—\*—\*—

A certain commercial editor, who was once a small boy, with a mother who knew the value of a slipper in cases of emergency, cannot to this day write about "a movement in leather" without hitching uneasily in his chair.

## REVERIES OF A PARAGRAPHER

A very pious man, who never read anything but the Bible, and would not touch a wicked newspaper, is dead. He went to the city and blew out the gas.

—\*—\*—\*

Some exchange editors should hang the sign "No Trust" over their desk ; they never give credit.

—\*—\*—\*

A brass band, like an independent editor, blows for both parties.

—\*—\*—\*

The youth who has written a good commencement essay after four months' hard work always thinks himself qualified to get up leading editorials of the same length in three-quarters of an hour.

—\*—\*—\*

There are 30,149 people in Alaska, including 339 who can read, and yet no one has thought to start a paper there and claim 80,000 circulation.

## JOURNALISM

The *London Times* needs a few American editors, paragraphers, critics, reporters, and libel suits to keep it from going to sleep.

—♦—♦—♦—

Some newspapers come out of the Press very damp, but they are “dry” enough by the time they reach their readers.

—♦—♦—♦—

Rich upholstery may save a bad play, but all the furniture that can be packed in a printing office will not save a poor paper.

—♦—♦—♦—

The poetry of motion is the average “Ode to Spring.” It flies from the editorial desk to the waste-basket in quicker time than any other species of composition.

—♦—♦—♦—

Ambitious young men who hope to go to Congress should spend a few years on a newspaper. They would then learn that it is possible to say something without talking round it for two or three hours. Many

## REVERIES OF A PARAGRAPHER

Congressional orators have never been taught this. ———

Newspapers must be of the feminine gender. Whenever one dons a new dress, all the others are expected to exclaim, "How lovely!" whether they think so or not. ———

Bronson Howard, the dramatist, says that in England the best reason for not doing a thing is that it has not been done before. Perhaps that explains why English comic papers never print anything funny. ———

The editor of the *San Francisco News Letter* has been experimenting on an air-ship for years, and now thinks he has succeeded. It will be so handy to step into when a man with a bill is coming upstairs, that he expects to sell one to every country editor on the Continent. ———

If the pen is mightier than the sword, why are not editors paid more than major-generals?

## JOURNALISM

A country editor's idea of heaven is a place where they always have three square meals a day.

~\*~\*~

The hardest thing to convince the general public is, that churches and newspapers cannot be run without money.

~\*~\*~

A town is known by the newspapers it keeps.

~\*~\*~

A West Chester (Pennsylvania) paper has gone into the business of hatching turtles. Plenty of snap is what every good newspaper needs.

~\*~\*~

Journalists seldom become famous. They work so hard to make other men famous that they have no time to think of themselves.

~\*~\*~

Tom Taylor received a salary of \$7.500 (15 lbs.) as editor of London *Punch*. It was worth that to be obliged to read the contents of each No.



## REVERIES OF A PARAGRAPHER

It is not necessary to "know everything" in order to become a great editor. It is only necessary to have a clear conception of what you don't know.

— — —

When a man comes into a newspaper office, and asks in tones trembling with suppressed passion, "Who wrote that article?" it is taking a mean advantage of him to shift the responsibility to the biggest, burliest compositor about the premises.

— — —

Some scissor the guide-books and print the chapters as letters from abroad; other papers pay some traveller to do it.

— — —

General Sherman is the first man in the United States to say to journalists: "You know your business a great deal better than I do." But no journalist has yet said to General Sherman: "You know your business better than we do."

## INDIVIDUAL IDIOSYNCRASIES

SARDOU'S motto : " Victory an'  
Sardou."



There is a great deal of prose  
license in Walt Whitman's poetry.



Sarah Bernhardt does not speak  
true Parisian French. I have this  
on the authority of half a dozen  
Americans who learned the language  
in a Connecticut Seminary.



The reason Bonanza Mackay works  
so hard is because he has a great  
lode on his mind.



Sarah Bernhardt keeps a poodle  
dog. She must have something to  
hold on to during a high wind.

## REVERIES OF A PARAGRAPHER

Queen Victoria's last wedding present was a silver service; that job lot of India shawls has evidently run out.

\*\*\*

Pierre Lorillard's soul is reflected in his face: his features are fine cut.

\*\*\*

Joseph Cook has a tremendous advantage over other people. He can deliver the same lecture over and over again to the same audience; and as it is impossible to turn the leaves of a dictionary as fast as he can talk, no one knows the difference.

\*\*\*

Willie Winter is an honorary member of the Grand Army of the Potomac. He is one of the bravest, most gallant writers of heroic verse in the country.

\*\*\*

John B. Gough is a tug-boat for saving vessels which in the voyage of life have stranded on the bars.

## INDIVIDUAL IDIOSYNCRASIES

Tennyson's father was a clergyman; this accounts for the poet's love of pastoral subjects.

—\*—\*—\*

The Princess Louise is said to be very badly dressed. If she had to go huckstering around, trying to get the largest amount of nice material for the least money, and then sit down and make it up herself, she would be dressed like a princess.

—\*—\*—\*

Henry Ward Beecher's hobby is rugs. The floors of his house are adorned with rugs of every nation, hue, and texture, and even in his sermons he prefers a rugged style.

—\*—\*—\*

Hawthorne was never known to speak ill of any one—but then he died before a good many men, now well known, became prominent.

—\*—\*—\*

Beaconsfield, in his novel "Endymion," says, speaking of America:

#### REVERIES OF A PARAGRAPHER

"A country that borrows its language, its laws, and its religion cannot have its inventive powers much developed." Will Disraeli please explain where he got his language, his laws, and his religion? Certainly not from his ancestors.

—\*—\*—\*

Emily Soldene was born with a silver spoon in her mouth—a table-spoon.

—\*—\*—\*

If, as reported, Queen Victoria is unpopular in England, it is because her subjects do not read history. If they did, they would know that a queen should be judged not by what she does, but by what she don't do.

—\*—\*—\*

Susan B. Anthony would follow Bernhardt's example and exhibit a bust that she has made, but she is afraid people will suspect that she got a good deal of help from Phidias.

## INDIVIDUAL IDIOSYNCRASIES

Anthony Comstock always rejoices at the advent of Spring. He hates to see the limbs of the trees so bare.

— — —

I have just discovered why Charles Francis Adams holds his head so high. It seems that the elder Adams was the son of a farmer who never tried to pass off an old hen for a spring chicken ; and in addition, he was also a cobbler, who never told a lie, or in any way disappointed his customers. Who would not be proud of such ancestors ?

— — —

Carl Schurz is a fine musician, but he never played with more expression than just after he joined the "Blue Ribbon" Society. The selection was "The Last Smile."

— — —

It is said that James Gordon Bennett is in love with the Princess Beatrice, but I hope no American journalist will so far forget his posi-

## REVERIES OF A PARAGRAPHER

tion as to marry into that stuck-up Guelph family.

-x-x-x-

The Prince of Wales calls us his "American cousins," an endearing term which no one will object to so long as he behaves himself.

-x-x-x-

When Eli Perkins runs short of soap, he takes a little fat and talks to it.

-x-x-x-

"Ike Marvel" (Donald G. Mitchell) would be quite wealthy were it not for the fact that he has to support a model farm near New Haven, Connecticut.

-x-x-x-

Olive Logan not only says that "Paris is the wickedest city on the face of the earth," but adds in the same breath, "it's a lovely place to visit."

-x-x-x-

Dinner-parties at which the guests are very young girls are called

## INDIVIDUAL IDIOSYNCRASIES

rosebud parties. Byron would have called them "bread-and-butter" parties, but Byron's taste was notoriously bad.

—\*—\*—

When Richard Grant White comes down hard on an icy pavement, he uses as common words as anyone else.

—\*—\*—

That "the child is father to the man" is finely illustrated in the case of the great Napoleon, who was belligerent even as a baby. About half the time he was up in arms.

—\*—\*—

At Limerick recently, Hugh Murray Gunn, J.P., testified that a ten-year-old boy had whistled at him derisively, and thereby intimidated him. Gunn should have retaliated by calling the boy his son.

—\*—\*—

A friend of mine became converted, and happening to have a phonograph



## REVERIES OF A PARAGRAPHER

into which he once talked while in a fit of passion, he keeps it in his bedroom, and when he finds no buttons on his shirt, he calmly grits his teeth and turns the phonograph.



Edgar Allan Poe "broke himself on the wheel of his own making," according to a learned critic in the *London Fortnight*; he might have added that it was not a water-wheel.

## SOCIETY

LADIES going to Europe should remember that, after being presented to the Queen, they should not turn around and walk away. Etiquette demands that they shall wriggle off sideways, as if their dresses had suddenly split open in the back.

—\*—\*—

A tandem team is not ornamental, but it is useful in estimating the mental calibre of the owner.

—\*—\*—

No man has a right to be proud of his ancestors, unless he has so lived that his ancestors, if alive, would be proud of him.

—\*—\*—

No gentleman smokes where it is likely to annoy ladies—unless the ladies happen to be relatives.

## REVERIES OF A PARAGRAPHER

The society which opens its doors to a betrayer, yet shuts them to the betrayed, must be constituted very much like the society of Australia at the time that Australia was a penal colony. Its ranks were recruited from criminals, never from their victims.



Fast men sometimes "settle down," just as the ground above a coal-mine will settle after the coal is all taken out.



When many Americans are in Paris the theatres there have very small audiences. The Parisians get all the amusement they want listening to the Americans talk French.



When foes treat each other to cigars and quietly talk over and patch up their differences nothing is said about it. When they adjourn to the field of "honah," fire, miss, and shake hands, a great deal is

## SOCIETY

said about it ; yet both affairs end in smoke.

-x-x-x-

The pedigree of a horse is of little interest to the general public until he wins a race. It should be remembered that in this country the same rule applies to men.

-x-x-x-

So many good men are going wrong that the wicked do not get half a chance.

-x-x-x-

It make little difference whether it is spelled scandalise or scandalises.

-x-x-x-

Observing men have noticed that the hair on the forehead of the Chimpanzee is always parted in the middle, but in justice to the Chimpanzees it should be stated that they do not part it themselves. It grows that way.

## REVERIES OF A PARAGRAPHER

American ladies in Europe have the choice of wearing veils or being stared at as "professional beauties."

—\*—\*—

Russian baths are not popular at summer resorts ; it is pleasanter to dance.

—\*—\*—

A thief got into a fashionable house one night, but left without taking anything. He said he was not mean enough to rob people who had not been able to buy any new furniture for the last two hundred years.

—\*—\*—

Colorado Springs, Colorado Territory, is 6000 feet above the sea, has 7000 inhabitants, and not a saloon. This is a remarkable instance of total abstinence in high life.

—\*—\*—

Fashionable pickpockets in London tickle the noses of ladies who happen

## SOCIETY

to be looking into shop windows. The fair hand involuntarily applies the white handkerchief to the itching nose, and the naughty thief steals the purse from the exposed pocket.

In America the fashionable pick-pockets tickle the ears of the community with protestations of virtue, and while people are wondering why they all cannot be such models of morality, they run off with the funds.



The fashionable pose at the photographers, affected by the London beauties, is leaning against the jamb of a kitchen door feeding chickens, just as if the sight of a London beauty in full dress would not scare the tamest chickens out of the range of the camera.



At a wedding everybody should be in good humour, and that is the reason the organist always plays the march from Long-grin.

## REVERIES OF A PARAGRAPHER

Darwin would never have thought of his theory had he not one day seen an American snob aping an English swell.

—\*—\*—

A writer says: "What is called 'æstheticism' has been known and laughed at for thirty years." Very likely. Some of the æsthetic maidens I have seen look fully as old as that.

—\*—\*—

There is a good deal in a name. One of the leaders in London fashion is Mrs Freake.

—\*—\*—

The ships of to-day are very small in comparison with those of the olden time. The *Mayflower* was not regarded as a particularly large vessel for those days, yet she brought over more furniture in one trip than the *Great Eastern* could carry back in one year.

## SOCIETY

Speaking of London society papers a writer asks: "Why is it that the literature of the aristocracy has never succeeded in America?" It is probably because the only aristocracy in America is the shoddy aristocracy, and they can't read.

—\*—\*—

The good farmer soweth his seed in the spring and spendeth the summer killing the weeds and nurturing his crops; the good preacher likewise soweth the seed, but then hieth away to a summer resort and letteth the crops and weeds fight it out on their own hook.

—\*—\*—

Two male friends may greet each other with "How are you, old man?" and remain the best of friends still; but it would not do for a lady to approach another with "How are you, old woman?" Sexes, like circumstances, alter cases.



## REVERIES OF A PARAGRAPHER

Ladies who make a vulgar display of diamonds on all occasions are perhaps excusable. They may not have anything else to be proud of.

-x-x-x-

Fashionable teacups are expensive, but they are so small that people who entertain a good deal of company find it economy to buy them.

-x-x-x-

People who become engaged at summer resorts are not required by etiquette to recognise each other after the season closes.

-x-x-x-

In the autumn seaside belles don their modesty and full dress and go back to the city in time to bleach out for the Opera Season.

-x-x-x-

Self-poise is when a man suddenly confronted by an old creditor in a public place, warmly shakes him by the hand, and invites him to dinner.

## SOCIETY

The court fool disappears from society just about the time that the modern fop came in.

—\*—\*—

A young lady who was recently married at Washington wore silk stockings which her grandmother wore at her wedding, and shoe-buckles which belonged to her great-grandfather. The amount of poverty in this world is truly appalling.

—\*—\*—

The proudest man at a fashionable wedding is not the groom, but the youngest usher.

—\*—\*—

Society weddings cost from \$1000 to \$20,000, but the cost of the wedding is not a safe basis by which to calculate the amount of happiness or misery which is to follow.

—\*—\*—

Coaching has been revived. A hundred years from now some haughty Miss will gaze with despair

## REVERIES OF A PARAGRAPHER

on an old photograph of a four-in-hand, and sadly admit that her grandfather began life as a stage-driver.



Some ladies trim their lap dogs with ribbons and then go hunting around town for enough stuff of the same colour to make a dress of. The dress of the lady and the ribbons on the dog must match.



English society may have its faults, but one thing can be said in its favour. The man who has spent his time in storing his mind is more welcome than one who has stored nothing but his bank vault.



When the accomplished coquette begins her summer campaign, Satan takes a vacation.



The rage for old-fashioned things is now so great that society even countenances marrying for love.

## SOCIETY

The rear of a city house should be made more pleasant than the front. It is more used by would-be fashionables in the summer time.



Death is the only unwelcome caller that cannot be put off with the stereotyped reply, "Not at home."



If Dame Nature had known what Dame Fashion was going to do, she would have covered the legs of children with hair.

## ART, MUSIC, AND THE DRAMA

HAMLET's costume should be all in one piece, for he says, "I know not seams."

—\*—\*—

The forest scenes on the stage never appear natural. The painters utterly ignore the necessity of filling their rocks and trees with patent medicine advertisements.

—\*—\*—

Musicians are divided into two classes—those who like to hear themselves play and those who like to hear themselves sing.

—\*—\*—

The Duke of Edinburgh before playing his violin puts resin on the strings as well as on the bow. This gives the strings more resin-ance.

## ART, MUSIC, AND THE DRAMA

The average actor needs less motion and more emotion.

—\*—\*—

Dramatists pretend to hold the mirror up to Nature, and yet not one of them has thought to make any of the domestic scenes natural by having a baby wake up yelling. Stage babies never cry, and the married critics, knowing that there is something wanting, though they cannot think just what it is, tear the play to pieces on general principles.

—\*—\*—

One of the saddest spectacles in Opera is to see a tenor dividing floral tributes with the soprano. Gallant American audiences would like him all the better if he would hand the lady even those addressed to him. She could then, if so disposed, hand them back, and the applause would start up afresh.

## REVERIES OF A PARAGRAPHER

A person who knows nothing about Art can visit all the noted galleries of Europe and never expose his ignorance; the rule is to go into raptures over the old and ugly paintings and turn up your nose at the fresh and pretty ones.

-\*\*\*-

The youngsters seen gathered about a stage door on matinee days are not all grandchildren of the ballet girls, though some of them may be.

-\*\*\*-

In theatrical circles an actress is seldom "managed" by her husband; it is even more rare to see an actress "supported" by her husband.

-\*\*\*-

What the modern stage needs is a play written up to the artistic beauty of Worth's dresses.

-\*\*\*-

Amateur connoisseurs should remember when at a fine art exhibition

## ART, MUSIC, AND THE DRAMA

that because a picture is good in tone it cannot correctly be referred to as a "tony-painting."

-x-x-

Many an actor who calls himself a "walking gentleman" is only a walking "stick."

-x-x-

Some persons seem to go to theatres for the express purpose of showing off their clothes and talking loudly about their last tour of Europe. It is not the subject of their conversation, but their grammar that grates harshly on the ear.

-x-x-

Art is long ; art students always have to enter a life class.

-x-x-

Bernhardt says her rich dresses are merely "tools of trade." Some of them are edged tools ; the edging is of lace.



## REVERIES OF A PARAGRAPHER

Noted European stars seldom come to America until they get old enough to interest lovers of bric-à-brac.

-\*\*\*-

The characters in nearly every new drama are merely old friends with new phrases.

-\*\*\*-

Levy, the cornetist, is a strict temperance man. This is largely due to the fact that while he was learning to play the cornet he had to keep his wits about him to avoid being assassinated. The force of habit has made him very temperate ever since.

-\*\*\*-

Among the Crow Indians a person who has lost a near relative is forbidden to sing for six months. It is sincerely to be hoped that this custom will never be introduced into civilised society. The number of murders is frightful to contemplate as it is, without adding another incentive.

## ART, MUSIC, AND THE DRAMA

The drama should go hand in hand with religion, and it would, were it not for the fact that the public won't pay for religion oftener than once a week, and that is the day on which the theatres are shut up.



A prima donna's voice is a casket of jewels, full of precious tones.



The only way to elevate the stage is to elevate the audience.



The most successful books are the ones that publishers are afraid of, and the most popular plays the ones which most managers have feared to produce.



Next to a good comedy there is nothing so amusing as a poor tragedy.



Socrates at an extreme old age learned to play on musical instruments. All persons who are not

## REVERIES OF A PARAGRAPHER

gifted with a peculiarly sensitive musical ear should follow Socrates' example. The older they are when they begin the better.

—\*—\*—

A young actor can learn more by watching a Parisian off the stage, than any other nationality on it.

—\*—\*—

The organ - grinder is the most orderly and inoffensive of beings. He seems to have a vague idea that all mankind is only waiting for a good excuse to lynch him, and he conducts himself accordingly.

—\*—\*—

Prima donnas are not paid too much, considering the high price of flowers during the opera season.

—\*—\*—

A musical critic has had his salary raised. He wrote fifteen lines about one of Chopin's compositions without using the words "sombre" and "weird" more than twice.

## ART, MUSIC, AND THE DRAMA

"A little rift within the flute at last will make its music mute," as the boarder said when he dug his jack-knife into the instrument owned by the sad-eyed young man in the next room.

-x-x-x-

Jack Frost makes a capital artist, but his pictures lack warmth.

-x-x-x-

More taste and knowledge are required in the choice of paintings. The mere fact that an engraving is faded and ugly does not prove that it is by an old master.

-x-x-x-

The average picture-buyer does not purchase pictures, but artists' names, with the pictures thrown in.

-x-x-x-

A member of the Chinese legation at Washington says, "Americans will have to be educated up to Chinese music to enjoy it." When Americans have been educated up to Wagner, it will be time enough to tackle Chinese music.

## REVERIES OF A PARAGRAPHER

It is not strange that actors should be cast down when cast down.



Wagner could probably improve his music by coming to America; some of his compositions would be greatly benefited by change of air.



Soldene does not have to pay any duty on her wardrobe. She smuggles it through in her chignon.



"The path to greatness is beset by thorns," but the path to theatrical greatness contains one Thorne which no one desires to see removed.



The public no longer ask how many acts there are in the play, but how many times the star changes her dress.



If good music is an intellectual enjoyment there should be no objection to head-notes.

## ART, MUSIC, AND THE DRAMA

Eight hundred American girls are studying opera in Europe. It will be hard work to supply them with eight hundred original Italian labels; but it must be done somehow. Few Americans can sing well enough to make any headway under their own names.



It only takes three weeks to write a good play if the author has any talent for his work; but it takes about ten more years to convince the average critic that it should not be "boiled down" a little more.



A talented artist of my acquaintance painted a picture of his umbrella so naturally that the first dear friend who came to the studio stole it.



Blind Tom appears as the composer of a "March Timpani." As played by the average amateur, it sounds like a march tin-pan-y with a dog in front.

## REVERIES OF A PARAGRAPHER

Seventy theatres in Italy are giving opera, and still there are not enough to provide all would-be prima donnas with chances to make *debuts* to empty benches, and insert paid puffs in the professional papers for transatlantic effect.



Composers should be careful to write their overtures in a key that will harmonise with the voices of the boys who yell "Opera Books" up to the moment the curtain rises.



Many a prima donna has built up a reputation with the timber of her voice.



The decline of the drama is, probably owing to the fact that the public never sees but about one-tenth of a play ; the rest is bonnet.



Kossak, well known as a musical critic in Berlin, died in poverty. He was an honest critic.

## YOUNG AMERICA

IN the good old times the father said to his son, "Pay as you go; if you can't pay, don't go." Now, judging from results, the advice seems to be, "Go as you please, and pay if you must."



Send your boys into the country every summer. The boys will be delighted by the change, and so will your neighbours.



The brightest hours in a boy's life come when he gets big enough to enjoy Copenhagen, but not old enough to feel the responsibilities of existence.



A bad boy is regarded as a mauldaddy in most families.



There is an improved foot-power for sewing machines, which is so



## REVERIES OF A PARAGRAPHER

successful that the inventor has gone to work on an improved foot-power for back parlours. The idea is to have an automatic contrivance which can be set in motion from the chamber above when it is time for the young man to go.

-x-x-x-

The youth who gets shaved but once a month, and does not give the barber the impression that he shaves twice a week, can be trusted with the funds of a bank or a Sunday-school when he grows up.

-x-x-x-

You never know how much human nature there is in a child until you try and convince one that it is more blessed to give than to receive.

-x-x-x-

A lady who never spanked her boy hard enough to hurt him finally hung in her sitting-room the illuminated motto : "Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy might." That boy reformed on the spot.

## YOUNG AMERICA

Young America reads it: Train up your fathers in the way they should go.

There was a time when the average boy's highest ambition was to go to sea or become a stage-driver. Now he is in doubt as to whether he would rather go West and fight Indians, or wear a high hat and smoke cigarettes.

A naughty boy who tried to steal some preserves, but got his fingers pinched by a clam, learned a lesson which he will never forget. Hereafter he will first examine the jar.

No problem of life is more brain racking than that which confronts the boy who is undecided whether to go to the circus or save his money for Fourth of July fire-crackers.

The usual mode of celebrating the glorious Fourth of July might occasionally be varied by taking the boys through a planing-mill, and letting

## REVERIES OF A PARAGRAPHER

them feel of the circular saws to see if they are in motion. It would cost little, there would be less noise, and the result would be the same.



Seth Green should turn his attention to the rapid depletion of the stock of worms. One boy will use up seventy-five worms in catching three fish, and all boys go fishing.



No one knew why William Burton of Iowa lay down and died, until a year after the sad event. Then they found a letter in which he said: "I kan not bare to liv after Muther has Boxt my ears." Poor boy! he probably thought that as his ears had been boxed, they might as well box the rest of him.



A phrenologist wants parents to "find out their child's speciality, and then cultivate it," just as if the world would be any better if boys were trained to the profession of attaching old cans to stray dogs.

## NIGHT THOUGHTS

How hard it is to make some coal-dealers understand that you want a ton of small stove coal, instead of a small ton of stove coal !

Be kind to dumb animals, particularly mules and cross dogs.

It takes a live wag to make a pun-stir.

Our coloured fellow-citizens came down from the "dark" continent.

I know a dairyman who is so sensitive, that he cannot touch a pump-handle when a cow is looking at him.

## REVERIES OF A PARAGRAPHER

Smoked glasses and blue glasses are well enough for the seaside, but for strawberry festivals red glasses should be worn to protect the eyes from the glare of the white plate, and assist the imagination at the same time.

—\*—\*—

An ozone generator for the manufacture of mountain air in every city dwelling is a new invention. All the world needs now is something to manufacture rocks, brambles, and snakes, and a great deal of money can be saved every summer.

—\*—\*—

Eleventh-hour confessions should be received with caution; the criminal may be lying on his deathbed.

—\*—\*—

The telephone is a great institution. You may have a confidential chat with a friend a mile off, and no one can hear you, except the people who happen to be within half a square of the instrument into which you are shouting.

## NIGHT THOUGHTS

As a little leaven leaveneth the whole lump, a little rock and rye will make the whole world rock awry, so I have been told.

-x-x-x-

A turtle with a date on his back, is of no more use than one without such a decoration ; what this country needs is some system of registering the birthday of chickens, so that the figures will show when the feathers are off.

-x-x-x-

It is difficult to see why lace should be so expensive. It is mostly holes, and holes are cheap.

-x-x-x-

Joshua was not permitted to retain the power of making the sun stand still. The temptation to use it, when first waked up in the morning, would have been too strong to resist.

-x-x-x-

I do not believe that even Ingersoll has the heart to tear from the nursery the dear old faith in Santa Claus.

## REVERIES OF A PARAGRAPHER

Prosperity is a great teacher ;  
adversity is a greater—a kind of  
human nutmeg-grater, as it were.

—\*—\*—

The bicycle has been pronounced  
“a most abominable and dangerous  
nuisance,” by a London magistrate.  
He must have been trying to ride  
one.

—\*—\*—

When a man wakes up very late  
he is angry, when he wakes up too  
early he is angry, and when he wakes  
up just at the right time he is angry  
because he can't lie abed a little  
longer. Few men ever get up in  
good humour.

—\*—\*—

A Boston composer has set the  
roar of Niagara Falls to music, but  
as he neglected to introduce the  
clinking of half-dollars at the toll  
gates, it does not sound natural.

—\*—\*—

Milan has a curiosity in a clock  
which is made entirely of bread (it

## NIGHT THOUGHTS

must be German bread). I have long believed that boarding-house bread could be put to some practical use, but never thought of making clocks of it. What enduring material it would be for tombstones !



As soon as a housekeeper succeeds in making a servant girl "keep her place," she leaves it.



Give your son a good education ; the family circle should have an heir of culture.



American mothers so love the stars and stripes they continually sing "buy a baby bunting."



The eternal fitness of things demands that feathers used for trimming spring bonnets should be from birds with very long bills.



Nitro-glycerine will cure hay fever. It should be well shaken before taken.



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## REVERIES OF A PARAGRAPHER

Mother Shipton, who predicted railroads, the telegraph, etc., was not such a prophetess after all. She did not predict that the day would come when young men would go out riding on a big wheel with a little wheel following along behind.



One objection urged against women's suffrage is that wives would vote the same way as their husbands, but in Wyoming it has been found that the husbands vote the same way as their wives.



Old Father Tailor, the celebrated sailors' preacher, used to say: "The way for a man to be eloquent is to get himself chuck-full of his subject and then knock out the bung and let his ideas flow naturally." This is very good in theory, but experience has shown that the flow is too often of a bung-come character.

## NIGHT THOUGHTS

Some people spend half their time borrowing trouble, yet they are the very ones who are best able to make it.

— — —

A Western clergyman denounces "Kissing games," and he is right. Children should not waste their time that way; kissing should be left to those who are old enough to appreciate it.

— — —

Buttonless gloves are fashionable in Paris, but they will not become popular in this country, where many a youth hurries his dear one off to the theatre simply for the privilege of holding a hair-pin in one hand and a little wrist in the other.

— — —

Nature's laws always move in a circle. Corn is fed to cattle; from cattle we get leather; of leather we make shoes; from shoes we get corns.



## REVERIES OF A PARAGRAPHER

My pet cat has taken charge of a brood of chickens. How disappointed she will be when in after years she finds that the brood go quietly to roost, instead of getting up on the back fence to yowl!

—\*—\*—

Bugs are seldom regarded as blessings, but lightning bugs must be an exception; they always "brighten as they take their flight."

—\*—\*—

A mule cannot carry an umbrella under one arm with the point sticking out behind, but he can do almost as much damage with his heels if given a fair chance.

—\*—\*—

A poet calls the humming-bird a winged emerald "by swiftness turned to golden mist." A very pretty conceit, as anybody will find who tries to catch one. The "winged emerald" will soon be missed.

## NIGHT THOUGHTS

A New York milk-dealer tied his cows to a tree with pieces of old telegraph wire. A thunderstorm came up, and the force of habit was so strong in the wire that the cows were despatched.

-x-x-

Young writers should learn to weigh their words, and if they have not a pair of scales handy, a good rule is to remember the longer a word the greater the weight. Many long words, therefore, make a heavy article—one which will drop into the waste-basket by its own gravity.

-x-x-

After Adam and Eve had been married ten years, they had a census taken, and because the enumerator did not return 5000 inhabitants Adam kicked up a terrible row about it. There is a good deal of the old Adam in mankind yet.

-x-x-

Love and hope are the horse and wagon, and "good temper" the

#### REVERIES OF A PARAGRAPHER

axle grease of life. Few burdens can be carried far without them.

—\*—\*—

“The flower which we do not pluck is the only one which never loses its beauty and fragrance.” Sentimental writer, leave the woman on the parent stem until she becomes an old maid, and then see how your theory pans out.

—\*—\*—

When a strange dog shows his teeth and holds his tail perfectly still, do not walk any further. Wait for the *wag-on*.

—\*—\*—

The title of prince in Russia is about equal to that of Esquire in England and Mr in the United States.

—\*—\*—

Try to make a good impression at the start. An ounce of prevent-shun is worth a pound of cure.

## NIGHT THOUGHTS

Texas has a law, now about to be repealed, requiring every railroad train to stand still five minutes on arriving at the boundary line of the State. This was probably to give the passengers time to get out their revolvers, but the State is becoming more civilised, and that precaution is no longer necessary.

—\*—\*—

The man who eats heartily of a wedding-cake, and then dreams over it, is more apt to see his grandmother than his future bride.

—\*—\*—

The observing individual who was struck by the ease, grace, and power of a moving express train will have to describe his sensations through a spiritual medium.

—\*—\*—

An exquisite man has such a fine regard for the eternal fitness of things, that when he leaves home he will not send his checked suit in anything but a checked trunk.

## REVERIES OF A PARAGRAPHER

It is a remarkable fact that criminals often escape the gallows because the jury has been "hung."

—\*—\*—

A friend of mine has given his girl-baby the pretty and appropriate name of *Insomnia*.

—\*—\*—

Do not throw away a piece of string just because it is all tangled up. The old adage says: "Waste knot, want knot."

—\*—\*—

The first almanac was printed in 1460. Copies of it are hard to get now. They have all been bought up by minstrel men.

—\*—\*—


A Philadelphia shoemaker who uses nothing but cowhide, always claims to sell calf's-skin boots.

—\*—\*—


To dream is to think during sleep, but it does not follow that to think is to dream while awake, though many people seem to be of that opinion.

## NIGHT THOUGHTS


In some parts of Ireland the sleep which knows no waking is always followed by a wake which knows no sleeping.



The fact that so many New York belles are handsome is another illustration of Darwin's theory, "the survival of the fittest." The pretty girls are helped across Broadway by gallant policemen, and live to become the mothers of pretty children ; the homely girls have to look out for themselves, and are killed off by the passing omnibuses.



Moisture contracts more than cold. No amount of freezing will transform a large statue into a statuette, but a little water will make a Colossus a statue-wet.



The practice of printing serial stories in magazines arose from the

## REVERIES OF A PARAGRAPHER

necessity of inventing some way to induce women to begin at the first chapter instead of the last.

\*\*\*

There is a place in the Sandwich Islands called "Wichita-Kau," the letter for which place, directed *via* San Francisco and China mail, reaches Wichita-Kau with great regularity, and yet, ten chances to one, if you write to a dear friend in Wichita-Kansas for a short loan, he will declare to his dying day that the letter must have gone to Wichita-Kau.

\*\*\*

In voting local appropriations Congressmen are influenced by the Mosaic law—an eye for an eye.

\*\*\*

Baby carriages should be provided with high dash-boards, so as to prevent pedestrians who are run into from falling on the baby.

## NIGHT THOUGHTS

"There is nothing new under the sun." Edison's electric light was first seen in the ark—the voltaic arc.

\*\*\*

A Texas man recently died of old age, but on investigation the phenomenon was explained by the discovery that he had worn a coat of mail ever since he got old enough to be shot at.

\*\*\*

What is so rare as a day in June? Lowell, nothing; everything but the day is thoroughly baked.

\*\*\*

The way to distinguish between oleo-margarine and cheap butter is to taste it; if it suggests green pastures and distant cow-bells it is oleo-margarine, if it suggests axle-grease it is butter.

\*\*\*

A crying baby at night will make a young father cover more miles to



## REVERIES OF A PARAGRAPHER

the hour than the best brass band  
that ever encouraged a pedestrian.



When a dairyman exclaims: "The  
milk is soured by thunder," he is not  
swearing, but merely stating a fact,  
as he understands it.

## PART II

---

### FLEETING FANCIES

No man feels like laughing when he bumps his funny-bone.

—\*—\*—\*

When riches take to themselves wings, friends fly away.

—\*—\*—\*

“Our chief glory is not in never falling, but in rising every time we fall,” said Confucius—but he never walked on a slippery pavement.

—\*—\*—\*

Mince-pie was discovered in 1596.  
Dyspepsia was discovered in 1597.

## REVERIES OF A PARAGRAPHER

Something no engineer can find out. Why a boiler should burst, when it never burst before.

—\*—\*—

Politeness may be nothing but veneering, but a veneered slab has the advantage of being without splinters.

—\*—\*—

I know a choir singer so modest that she always gets it, "As unmentionables the hart for cooling streams," etc.

—\*—\*—

Never fail to offer the easy-chair to an elderly woman.

—\*—\*—

The women in the University College, London, call themselves women; the women in a notion shop next door call themselves, not saleswomen, but sales-ladies. The men in the same shop call themselves, not sales-gentlemen, but salesmen.

## FLEETING FANCIES

Flies teach a lesson which should not be unheeded. They never go to sleep in church.

—\*—\*—

Fear of pain is a great blessing. It has cured many a toothache on the very threshold of a dentist's office.

—\*—\*—

Darwin has not yet accounted for the gradual evolution of the feminine appetite from chocolate caramels to pickles, and thence to beefsteak.

—\*—\*—

Salts of lemon never fails to remove ink spots. A great many would-be poets should buy the salts by the barrel and pickle their effusions in it.

—\*—\*—

The only way to adequately punish eloping couples is to compel them to live together ever afterward.

## REVERIES OF A PARAGRAPHER

Americans who ape the English lack one important qualification. The average Englishman has sound common-sense.

—\*—\*—

A lock of human hair has been found in the heart of a large tree in New York State. I suppose that many years ago some farmer left a roll of butter in a crotch of the sapling, and then went off and forgot about it.

—\*—\*—

In the Paris Post-Office was found in a panel adjacent to the letter-box a letter which had been posted fifty years before. The woman who wrote it might almost as well have given it to her husband to mail.

—\*—\*—

Columbus made an egg stand on its end by breaking the shell ; but if he had treated it properly he could, in due time, have made it stand on its feet.

## FLEETING FANCIES

Westfield, Mass., has a blind physician with a large practice. He is not, however, the only doctor who goes it blind.

—\*—\*—

The reason so many people look at the ballet through opera glasses is because, being modest, they desire to magnify the dresses as much as possible.

—\*—\*—

Man never fully comprehends the phrase, "paying the piper," until he runs against a plumber's bill.

—\*—\*—

Statistics show that divorced women are nearly all incapable of making good pumpkin pie.

—\*—\*—

Adam Forepaugh says Boston is the best circus city in the United States, and now the Bostonians pronounce his first name very deliberately.

## REVERIES OF A PARAGRAPHER

A parrot that swears in Spanish is a curiosity on Washington Heights, New York. It is supposed to have been the property of a titled heiress-hunter. Having caught a weak-brained heiress, he had no further use for the parrot.

—\*—\*—

Good (American) wine needs no bush, but it can't get along without a French label.

—\*—\*—

Rest is not always recreation ; change of scene is as necessary in life as in a play.

—\*—\*—

The President's Message — The White House.

—\*—\*—

What is the use of talking about Women's Rights. Half the women in the country do not use the rights they have, one of which is the right to spank their children when they deserve it.

## FLEETING FANCIES

One of the lost arts is the art of conversation. The world now works so hard and plays so little, that people who are able to talk sense seldom have time to spare, and people who have plenty of time seldom have any ideas to express.

—\*—\*—

Labouchere says: "Not one woman in fifty can stand at ease." His figures are too small. Not one woman in five hundred can stand a tease.

—\*—\*—

A man and his wife simultaneously went insane at an Indiana camp-meeting. "Two souls with but a single thought; two brains that cracked as one."

—\*—\*—

Some men are so unlucky, that if they should pull a slid up a steep icy hill, in order to ride down, the sun would come out and melt every inch of the smooth surface, just as they got to the top.



## REVERIES OF A PARAGRAPHER

About the only thing that American patent medicines do not claim to cure is the eruption of Mount Vesuvius.

—\*—\*—

The pain caused by a bee sting can be instantly relieved by jumping into a mud-puddle.

—\*—\*—

The hardest thing in the world to catch is a beautiful heiress; the easiest thing in the world to catch is a cold.

—\*—\*—

A once-trusted cashier, who used to lead the Sunday-School in "Oh, had I the wings of a dove," now sighs for a pair of seven-leagued boots.

—\*—\*—


To endure in silence may be brave, but it is often folly. The louder the small boy yells the sooner the slipper ceases to move.

—\*—\*—


The champion gymnast of Europe is called the German Talmage, probably because he is so moral.

## FLEETING FANCIES


The reason many men prefer a young widow to a coy maiden is, because a widow knows something of the value of time, and does not say "no" when she means "yes."



When a man puts on his Sunday clothes to go off on an excursion, he never leaves his pocket-book in his other suit, as he is so apt to do when only going to church.



The waiters at summer hotels are not the persons who take the orders, but the guests who never fee.



Fresh water with a little ammonia in it is said to be a good substitute for a sea bath, and by making the solution strong enough you can burn the skin off your nose just the same as if you had gone to the sea-shore, and given the sun a chance.

## REVERIES OF A PARAGRAPHER

A Philadelphia (Pa.) druggist has a model of the Cologne Cathedral, with a spray of perfumery coming from it, on his counter. It is a little one for a scent.



The German Heine was less of a poet than Poe, less of a humorist than Twain, less of a cynic than George Arnold, less of a blasphemer than Ingersoll, and yet Heine achieved world-wide fame.




Edison's electric light is all right, but he will not give it to the public until he has invented an appliance to turn it down very, very low. He was young himself once.




When the father is bad, it is "like father, like son"; when the father is good, this rule seldom applies.

## FLEETING FANCIES


Whom the gods would destroy,  
they first lure into trying to invent  
a perpetual-motion machine.



A Kentucky man will never sign  
the pledge again. He came home  
so sober one night that his wife did  
not know him, and he had to go off  
and tumble down in a gutter before  
she could be induced to unlock the  
door.



Parents who have neither in-  
dustry nor ability have no right  
to chide their children for being  
dullards. One cannot get a good  
chromo from a poor painting.



Rome is again moving in behalf  
of a World's Fair, to be held within  
its ancient walls. Her exhibit will  
consist of ten acres of old masters  
and the Vatican.

## DEEP DELVINGS

ONE of the cottages at Mount Desert (Me.), has the body painted red and the roof "old gold." It looks as if it had been covered with molasses and a sunset had stuck fast to it.



When it begins to rain at the sea-shore half the bathers rush out of the water and nearly break their necks getting to the bath-houses before they think how ridiculous they are.



There are four College men in the Cabinet, yet not one of them ever pulled stroke oar in a boat race or pitched for a victorious nine. Is it any wonder they sank into politics?

## DEEP DELVINGS

Fretting and worrying are often the cause as well as the effect of dis-ease.

—\*—\*—

There is no rose without a thorn. The family that can boast of having descended from the *Mayflower* has a painfully slim chance of falling heir to half a dozen millions left by some uncle in the old country.

—\*—\*—

Study thy friend's virtues through a microscope; examine his faults through the wrong end of an opera glass.

—\*—\*—

An engraver in a noted jewellery establishment designed a monogram which could be read. He was of course discharged.

—\*—\*—

Did you ever notice the rubber spring under a street car? That is what boarding-house spring chickens are named after.

## REVERIES OF A PARAGRAPHER

The almond-eyed heathen commonly known as the Chinese have a curious custom of paying their debts before entering upon the New Year's festivities. No use trying to civilise a people so far behind the age as that.

—\*—\*—

Preachers should always endeavour to select a text which carries its own explanation and its own moral, for the text is about all that the average auditor tries to remember.

—\*—\*—

There should be no caste in a republic, except the cast which makes a bronze monument in honour of lofty virtue.

—\*—\*—

A Boston club man says : " Whist is a game of calculation, observation, and position." He has hit it exactly. Get a position where you can see your opponent's hand, make an observation, and then your calculation will be all right.

## DEEP DELVINGS

The man who tried to open a can of nitro-glycerine with a hammer was afterwards found by his friends cool and collected. Strangers had collected him.

—\*—\*—

Shakespeare was probably thinking of a notary public when he wrote: "He doth protest too much."

—\*—\*—

If Mark Twain should run for the Presidency, he would be charged with stealing Adam's watch at the time he was weeping over his grave.

—\*—\*—

To turn back for something forgotten after having started from home is considered a sign of bad luck, and so it is. It is a sign of a bad memory, and people so afflicted are necessarily unlucky.

—\*—\*—

Wickedness can be seen through the thickest fog, but virtue has to have an electric light turned on it before it will be recognised by the world.



## REVERIES OF A PARAGRAPHER

Family picnics are made up of parents, children, sisters, cousins, and *ants*.

—\*—\*—

When a woman leaves a man who has not earned his salt for years, he immediately advertises that he will pay no debts of her contracting.

—\*—\*—

The soft pedal of the piano is seldom used by good players—except on Sundays.

—\*—\*—

The “cat” in the British Navy was abolished the moment that some one suggested to the Admiralty that the change would rob “Pinafore” of its chief point, and eventually kill it off.

—\*—\*—

The worst thing about the Chinese is that they are so imitative that they soon acquire all the American vices, and then cannot be depended on any more than any one else.

## DEEP DELVINGS

Leadville is 10,000 feet above the level of the sea. The people there have a high old time generally.

—\*—\*—

William Penn, believing that a love for bright colours is a vanity, made Philadelphia streets so narrow that few inhabitants could see the sun set without going to the housetop.

—\*—\*—

The practice of hanging a yellow flag at the doors of houses containing smallpox patients has been frowned down, the temptation to use it when rent is in arrears having been found too strong to resist.

—\*—\*—

There never was a woman who did not determine to make her lover stop smoking after they were married. The consumption of tobacco increases annually.

—\*—\*—

Lazy men cannot break the Sabbath. When they work at all it is always a labour of necessity.

## REVERIES OF A PARAGRAPHER

Guests at summer resort hotels much frequented by bridal parties always like to watch the tied come in.



Many promising young men seem to have an idea that the quotation, "Base is the slave that pays," is to be found somewhere in the Bible.



Illusion is very pretty, but it should not be worn at weddings. It is too suggestive.



A fact not generally known—that the rapid population of the Great West by people from the East is due simply to the desire of young couples to escape from mothers-in-law.



Army men say that a man can out-march a horse, but then a horse cannot be made to understand that there is glory ahead, or an enemy in the rear.

## DEEP DELVINGS

People who reside on shallow streams can keep goats in the summer without extra expense. The gentle animals live off the clothing of persons who go in bathing.

-x-x-x-

Many a bachelor could be lured into society if some one would start sewing-on-button parties.

-x-x-x-

When a rag-picker fishes a piece of cheap machine-made lace out of a gutter, he has no difficulty in selling it for real old lace, provided that he does not wash it.

-x-x-x-

Talmage estimates that only one Christian in twenty-eight says grace at the table, but then only one Christian in twenty-eight has a wife who can cook.

-x-x-x-

There is a young man in Dubugne, Iowa, who swears that he never

## REVERIES OF A PARAGRAPHER

kissed a girl in his life, and never permitted one to kiss him. He will never amount to much.



It is difficult to become familiar with the wheels of a watch, so many of them travel in-cog.



"Sewer gas brought direct to your bedrooms, cheap, for cash," would be an appropriate sign for some plumbers.



The rage for old-fashioned things should be extended to schools and colleges. Give the young a solid mahogany education instead of a little veneering on a white-pine basis.



Self-raising flower is very good so far as it goes, but what this world needs is self-raising salaries.

## DEEP DELVINGS

I once knew a woman who could cut a boy's hair so that it would not look as if he had just had a narrow escape from a thrashing machine.

—\*—\*—

Country fair managers may mean well enough in offering prizes to the woman with the most children, but they always give such short notice.

—\*—\*—

Kimball has raised \$11,000,000 from church members where mere religion had failed.

—\*—\*—

A maiden with a fine head of hair does not have to study philosophy to learn the power of capillary attraction.

—\*—\*—

If banana-trees, like some plants, could be grown from the slip, city streets would be well shaded.

#### REVERIES OF A PARAGRAPHER

It is not the thought that he must be eaten that saddens the early oyster; it is the reflection that he will never be able to flavour a quart of water at Church festivals.



When an American girl marries a title it is generally only a tie-till he gets all her money away from her.

## ALTITUDINOUS ASPIRATIONS

THERE is not a "Smith" in the United States Senate, and yet that body is supposed to represent the people.

—\*—\*—

Parisian actresses wear paper lace ; but then Parisian audiences do not spend half the evening trying to discover if all the dresses are just what they seem to be.

—\*—\*—

The drum-major is intended for the benefit of the public. The average brass band performer never looks at him.

—\*—\*—

A man never forgets the first girl he kissed, nor the last. It's the ones in between that tax the memory.



## REVERIES OF A PARAGRAPHER

The girl who sings, "Will you love me when I'm old?" should stop asking such conundrums, and make the most of her time while she's young.



A scientist of my acquaintance put the bulb of his thermometer into a hot whisky punch, and the mercury became elevated.



One of the unwritten laws of the ball-room:—When the band begins to play, prepare to hug.



The American people pay Presidents \$50,000 a year damages for the libels circulated about them during the campaign.



It is wrong to laugh at lovers. Pity the blind.



Woman is the dimple in Nature's angular elbow.

### ALTITUDINOUS ASPIRATIONS

London papers talk about "the quaint, unemotional American tone." They never heard a political speech, followed by three cheers and a tiger.

—\*—\*—

There is a woman in Indiana who claims to be possessed of a "devil." The only difference between her and a great many others is her candour.

—\*—\*—

No city man is thoroughly happy until after he has boarded off one summer at a far-away farmhouse. After that, the knowledge that he will never again have to go through the same experience fills his soul with an ineffable bliss, which no future misfortune can efface.

—\*—\*—

The ruling passion strong in death was illustrated by the last words of a London belle: "Don't let the mourners step on my funeral train."

#### REVERIES OF A PARAGRAPHER

Nothing is sure in this world.  
Even he who marries at leisure  
may repent in haste.



It has been discovered, according  
to a fashion journal, that an old  
hat can be made into a new work-  
basket, but the sum of human  
happiness will not be attained until  
old work-baskets can be made into  
new hats.



Foreign visitors hasten to Niagara  
Falls, and then go home and write  
that one cannot walk half a mile in  
America without passing through a  
toll-gate, that the American Indians  
talk with an Irish brogue, and that  
all hack-drivers are, or ought to be,  
millionaires.



It is generally conceded that the  
sea serpent has a head and neck  
like a black bottle, and a tail like a  
corkscrew.

## ALTITUDINOUS ASPIRATIONS

A certain millionaire in a certain city, on being implored to save a family from starving, contributed just *five cents* to the charity. I wonder what the old *Nick-el* do with him?

—\*—\*—

"Old wine," says Macagno, "owes its mellowness more to the increase of glycerine than to a decrease of tannin in the liquid." This then explains why rare old wines can be bought in this country at such a low price ; glycerine is cheap.

—\*—\*—

The season for canning and spicing fruit does not begin until after the theatres have closed. This keeps cloves at the same price all the year round.

—\*—\*—

When you see upon the domestic horizon a little cloud no bigger than a woman's hand, look out for squalls.

## REVERIES OF A PARAGRAPHER

The most popular writers are those who keep two-thirds of their productions in their desks.

—\*—\*—

Society never finds out that a woman is lovely and accomplished until her husband becomes great.

—\*—\*—

If that New York inventor, who claims to have discovered a process for making all fabrics waterproof, is successful, he will deserve a high place among the reformers of the age, for he will render umbrellas useless, and put a stop to an immense amount of thievery.

## SOLID SENSE

A MAN may be the President of the United States, a Member of the Cabinet, or a great General in the army, yet when a lady asks him to hail a street car, he will sink into utter insignificance beside the boot-black who can whistle between his fingers.



Deaf persons with "sound" teeth can hear best with the audiphone.



The reason that men who go from one political party to another are called "flopers" is because they always act like fish out of water.

## REVERIES OF A PARAGRAPHER

As a rule, a pretty daughter will give her father more trouble than her mother gave him.



If man is "only a little lower than the angels," the angels should reform.



The best place for a porous plaster during the house-cleaning and putting-up-store season is over the mouth.



The difference between necessities and luxuries is generally measured by the pocket-book.



A ring around the moon indicates rain; a ring around a girl's finger also indicates reign.



George Eliot was not buried in Westminster Abbey. Her friends objected to having the remains of

## SOLID SENSE

the great authoress placed in such close proximity to the dust of Henry VIII.



The chief industry of Texas is the sending of centipedes by mail to friends in the North.



The man with a heavy voice finds it difficult to lift it.



Sliding down stair railings is going out of fashion in good society.



A woman's heart and hand can be got for nothing, but the hand without the heart costs money.



Florida people have been finding clam shells at a depth of seventy feet below the surface of the earth. The phenomenon can only be accounted for on the theory that the



#### REVERIES OF A PARAGRAPHER

clams, hearing that a Fat Man's Club was on its way there, started for China.

-\*\*\*-

Snoring is considered a good ground for divorce in Ohio, and teachers of snoring make a fat living.

-\*\*\*-

It is a painfully suggestive fact that the first thing taught in bicycle schools is how to fall off.

-\*\*\*-

Over-indulgence in alcoholic drinks produces dangerous enlargement of the liver and serious contraction of the pocket-book.

-\*\*\*-

A popular ornament for the dinner table—Bass-relief.

-\*\*\*-

If Noah took a pair of mosquitoes into the ark with him, he found that folly carries its own punishment.

## SOLID SENSE

When you pay 150 cents at a pharmacy for a small phial of distilled water and an infinitesimal quantity of something else, you pay 105 cents for the materials and 45 cents for the knowledge of how to combine them. Knowledge is wealth.

—\*—

Few dramas in real life end happily. The villain of the piece generally buys a brown stone front, and after death is followed to the grave by twenty-five carriages, some of them filled, while his victim is found dead and sent to a dissecting-room.

—\*—

The daughter of a Canton (Ohio) judge, who sentenced the three boy murderers to be hung, gave them each a kiss before their execution, and as she is remarkably pretty, all the boys in that neighbourhood are saving up their pennies to buy pistols.

## REVERIES OF A PARAGRAPHER

Beauty in a woman's face, like sweetness in a woman's lips, is a mere matter of taste.

-x-x-x-

Money may be the root of all evil, but a man without it is like a tree without its root.

-x-x-x-

Chinamen can't whistle, and as all Americans can and do, it is not strange that the Chinese should want to get back to their native land as soon as they have money enough.

-x-x-x-

Every youth fancies' himself fairly started on the road to the White House when he sees his name in the papers among the secretaries of a ward meeting.

-x-x-x-

An Englishman who always misplaces his *h*'s and generally gives *a* and *o* the same sound, will talk as glibly about the "American accent" as if he knew how to speak the English language himself.

## SOLID SENSE

Boston is the only city on the continent which has a club composed of journalists, authors, painters, and artistic people generally, whose weekly dinners are really intellectual feasts, and where literary women have their opportunities for gathering together and exchanging knowledge and culture instead of gossip.

New York made an attempt when the "Lotus" was established, but as usual in that city, money crowded out brains.

\*\*\*

Pennsylvania Dutchmen have horse sense. When asked to buy something that they cannot afford, they reply "neigh."

\*\*\*

Young women who marry ancient millionaires should be graduates of some training-school for nurses if they wish to be of any use.

\*\*\*

Woman's love is like health—never adequately valued until it is lost.

## REVERIES OF A PARAGRAPHER

No man ever knows what happiness is until he has a wife and baby.

*N.B.*—He won't know it then if the baby has good lungs.

—♦—♦—♦—

Sloth finds the downy pillow hard, while in the spring the man with a new lawn-mower will snore upon a flint.

—♦—♦—♦—

Three little words occur in nearly all biographies or obituaries of public men. They are—"He read law."

—♦—♦—♦—

A Paterson (N.J.) firm has bored a well down so deep that salt water is now coming up.

—♦—♦—♦—

It is easy enough to get a big parade of any kind in house-cleaning.

—♦—♦—♦—

When a man enters a crowded street car with a lady, and some

## SOLID SENSE

other man gives her his seat, there are two things that lady's escort should do : First, thank the stranger for his little sacrifice ; and, Second, determine to be equally polite when occasion offers. Should this rule be followed, a little leaven of politeness would soon leaven the whole lump of car-travelling humanity.



A friend of mine who was stung ten times by bees one summer is preparing a sweet revenge. He will have his front yard planted with artificial flowers saturated with ammonia.



Old Sol has a good deal of sound sense. In the summer he gets up in the cool of the morning, but in the winter he does not rise until several hours later.



Niagara Falls has long been used as a motive—to draw people to high-priced hotels.

## REVERIES OF A PARAGRAPHER

The only way to fall out of love with a woman is to converse confidentially with her neighbours and intimate friends.

—\*—\*—

The English people find royalty so ruinously expensive that they have induced the royal family to witness the operations of American mowing machines. All, however, were still alive at last accounts.

—\*—\*—

A city hotel without a diamond-studded clerk would be as great an anomaly nowadays as a country inn without a Patent Office report on centre table.

—\*—\*—

Men who are moderate drinkers before marriage generally become immoderate drinkers after it, but all the world could not make the average girl believe it.

## RANDOM SHOTS

IN the trial of the canning season,  
preserve your temper when you can.



There is often more acting in a  
fashionable church than on the stage  
of a theatre.



The woman who is never jealous  
does not love, or has a rudely im-  
polite husband.




The smallpox death-scene in the  
dramatisation of "Nana" is so real  
that the audience always breaks  
out—with a storm of applause.




## REVERIES OF A PARAGRAPHER


There is a protest against French bills of fare in American hotels. They are of no use to people who do not understand the language, and their bad French always shocks the sensibilities of those who do.



The man who wrote "Backward, turn backward, O Time, in thy flight," was probably thinking of the girls he might have kissed, and didn't.



Bernhardt says American men "have no poetry." She ought to edit a paper for a while; and she would soon find a man without poetry more welcome than the chap who comes in with an armful.



The only sure way to avoid shipwreck is to stay on shore, and take the chances of being run over by horse-cars, hacks, or loaded wagons,

## RANDOM SHOTS

accidentally or intentionally shot, crushed by falling walls, or smashed up in railroad collisions.

—\*—\*—

Reform is the cry always started by the "outs" to oust the "ins."

—\*—\*—

The most conceited men in this world are those who imagine that they understand woman.

—\*—\*—

In England the practice of vitriol-throwing is rare. Few English-women have such dangerous beauty that rivals wish to destroy it.

—\*—\*—

The reasons such large numbers can be found in a street car is because it is the grand tote-all.

—\*—\*—

Human nature is the same all over the world, except in a horse-car—where it is a good deal more so.

## REVERIES OF A PARAGRAPHER

Even inanimate things are corrupted by bad example. When the engineer goes on a bust, the boiler is apt to do the same.

-x-x-

A youth seldom becomes stage-struck until he is actress-struck.

-x-x-

Dry goods stores and pocket-books have their fall opening at the same time.

-x-x-

Money spent in extravagance never comes back, unless it happens to be counterfeit.

-x-x-

The standard of culture is still very low. It is not the newsboy with a first-class paper, but the organ-grinder with a monkey that rakes in the pennies.

## RANDOM SHOTS

The man who complains that his wife does not cook as well as his mother forgets that he married a woman a good deal younger than his mother.

-x-x-x-

Beaconsfield wrote "Endymion" twenty years ago. The fact that it did not take his publishers any longer than that to decide whether the book would pay or not is considered something remarkable in the annals of authorship.

-x-x-x-

In 1614 some wicked schoolboys persisted in ringing an old mathematician's door-bell, and finally he got so mad that he invented logarithms.

-x-x-x-

A French lady can generally tell what is wrong about an unsatisfactory dish served at her table. An American lady only knows that she followed the recipe.

#### REVERIES OF A PARAGRAPHER

The height of the sublime is reached when a musical critic, who has been waked up at four o'clock every morning for three months by an aspiring pianist next door, conquers his rebellious spirit, and gives a favourable notice of a concert in which that pianist performs.

—\*—\*—\*—  
Poor ventilation in churches puts more Christians to sleep than poor sermons.

—\*—\*—\*—  
An international convention of amateur poets is soon to be held. Its object is to devise some means of compelling publishers to pay for poetry by the yard instead of by the pound.

—\*—\*—\*—  
Health journals will never be popular with the ultra-fashionables until they stop wasting space on the care of children, and give more attention to the diseases of lap-dogs.

## RANDOM SHOTS

The difference between wit and wisdom is that any one can be wise if they are willing to learn.

—\*—\*—

It is very difficult to write flowingly with ink that won't flow.

—\*—\*—

As a rule, the most untidy thing about a house is the tidy on the back of a rocking-chair.

—\*—\*—

When sick, do not waste money with drugs and doctors. Induce some paper to put your obituary in type, ready for emergencies. This remedy has cured the most hopeless cases, and is not patented.

—\*—\*—

White Mountain landlords say college students make the best waiters. At last there is a ray of hope for college graduates.

#### REVERIES OF A PARAGRAPHER

A woman's impressions of character are more correct than man's, because she knows woman, and any one can see through a man.

—\*—\*—

Exercise to be of benefit to the health must have some object which will bring the will power into full activity. A race with a mad bull across a ten-acre field is the best.

—\*—\*—

A woman's temper is like a chestnut worm—never discovered until too late.

—\*—\*—

The first bread made by a bride is very suggestive of a *London Times* editorial.

—\*—\*—

Ouida says that "American humour is the grin on the face of a corpse ; it is real humour, though of a ghastly and grim sort." She probably describes English humour as a corpse without the grin.

## RANDOM SHOTS

Reading election returns on bulletin boards at twelve o'clock at night is so hard on the eyes that a severe headache is likely to be the result the next morning.

\*\*\*

Strange how perfectly "gin" rhymes with "sin."

\*\*\*

Engagement rings should in some way suggest happy hours. The best material is a-gate.

\*\*\*

Nature abhors a vacuum. A head without brains must be filled with something, and the space is generally occupied by vanity and conceit.



## FACTS AND FANCIES

THE Irishman who went to sleep on the railroad track was waked by his friends.

—\*—\*—

A Boston man has been fined for using profane language. He was giving the pedigree of a horse.

—\*—\*—

Drowning men, and men who foolishly hope to drown their sorrows, catch at straws.

—\*—\*—

None but the brave deserve a professional beauty, and none but the brave will marry one.

—\*—\*—

In a Western town one winter some people cut a hole in the ice on a pond, ducked a young girl in it,

## FACTS AND FANCIES

and in two weeks she died. They called the proceeding "baptism," and so were not arrested.

- - -

Religion that is worth anything must be paid for. St Peter recognises no free passes at his gate.

- - -

When the electric light is beaming, the gas jets turn yellow with envy.

- - -

A youth with his first cigar makes himself sick ; a youth with his first girl makes other people sick.

- - -

No lady who has been before a Divorce Court, however innocent she may be, or on whichsoever side she may have been, is permitted by etiquette to have her name passed for a drawing-room at the English Court.

## REVERIES OF A PARAGRAPHER

So long as she keeps out of the Divorce Court, however, she can do just about as she pleases, and her respectability will not be questioned.

—\*—\*—

The generally high price of coal is due to the fact that the operators insist on having their miners devote two weeks in every month to mental and moral improvement.

—\*—\*—

A tanned face in the autumn is a passport into respectable society.

—\*—\*—

Counterfeit coins are made for the accommodation of people who are too proud to examine their change.

—\*—\*—

A Vassar College girl got very mad one night because a German glee club halted under her window and persisted in singing—  
“Gum where my love lies dreaming.”

## FACTS AND FANCIES

When a man is inquired for by a creditor, and sends word that he is not in, he lies, and he knows it; when his wife is called on by someone she does not desire to see, and sends word that she is "not at home," it must be the servant who does the lying.

—\*—\*—

One hypocrite will do more harm to a good cause than a thousand open foes, yet the avowed advocates of every cause spend far more time and energy fighting real or imaginary opponents than in exposing the hypocrites in their midst.

—\*—\*—

It is not until a man gets a family of grown - up daughters that he begins to wonder what love was invented for anyway.

—\*—\*—

No man can be convinced that he is not as smart as his fellows, but many are willing to admit that they have missed their calling.

## REVERIES OF A PARAGRAPHER

The drug clerk who gives the wrong medicine is arrested. The plumber who does his work so badly that half a dozen people die from sewer gas is paid at the regular rates.

- - -

It is a mean publisher who will make a school-book cover so thin that it will afford no adequate protection to the small boy in cases of emergency.

- - -

Gold is one of the most widely diffused metals on the globe; so widely diffused, in fact, that it is difficult to get much of it together.

- - -

Book agents should have their occupation inscribed on their cards in such large letters that he who reads may run.

- - -

One of the kindest things Heaven has done for man is denying him the power of seeing himself as others see him.

## FACTS AND FANCIES

Young ladies should not object to having an affiance play billiards. It is estimated that a man walks five miles around the table in every long game, and in after years the husband who can walk five miles around the room with a teething baby is very handy to have about the house.



It is all a mistake to suppose that political excitement leads persons to throw brickbats at torchlight processions; it is not political excitement, it is a desire to annihilate the bass-drum man in the brass band.



One of the industries of Eastern cities is shipping empty champagne bottles to California.



“A crooked stick is better than none,” as the Tennessee man said when he poured some moonshine whisky into his lemonade.

## REVERIES OF A PARAGRAPHER

"The cooling morsel of deglutition in its saline baptism comes to the alimentary with an assurance of health from external atmospheres." The above is by a Boston writer, and is supposed by experts to refer in some way to the oyster.

—\*—\*—

It has been discovered that the Romans used asafoetida in cooking, and thus the report that they were the strongest nation of the earth is corroborated.

—\*—\*—

Square umbrellas have been introduced in Paris. As they have fewer points for putting out the eyes of pedestrians, they are quite an improvement of the old-fashioned kind.

—\*—\*—

Beware of the man who tries to make you believe that he does not like to see his name in the paper.

—\*—\*—

The man who is not afraid of his wife is either a saint or a brute.

## FACTS AND FANCIES

Food for thought—a tough beef-steak. One cannot help thinking how hard that animal must have worked for a living before the butcher got hold of him.

-x-x-x-

The homely authoress always gives the heroine of her novel a remarkably plain but irresistibly interesting face.

-x-x-x-

To solve the problem : Teach them agriculture, and supply them with plenty of mowing machines, well sharpened.

-x-x-x-

“A babe,” says a writer, “is a mother’s anchor.” I have often heard that the first thing they do is to weigh it.

-x-x-x-

There is no harm in eating corn off the cob ; the impoliteness consists in looking at the person who is doing it.

-x-x-x-

Wanted, a cook-book, in which ingredients are not measured by the “lump,” “pinch,” or the word “little.”



## REVERIES OF A PARAGRAPHER

New York merchants are gradually learning that the seats in their stores are on the wrong side of the counter.

—\*—\*—

A Michigan barber has eloped with two women ; but then he doubtless can talk fast enough to entertain both.

—\*—\*—

Conservatism is to a city what laziness is to an individual—an unconquerable inertia which never sees an advantage until it is too late to grasp it

—\*—\*—

When a lady goes along the street in a new dress, all other women may not be able to follow suit, but their eyes do.

—\*—\*—

The only objection to putting women on juries is that all the pretty prisoners would be declared guilty the moment the judge gave the jury a chance.

## PROSY POSTULATIONS

DEAR Reader, if you have a hankering after fame, enter the field of journalism by all means. Forty years of faithful work will insure you a splendid obituary notice in your own paper, and as much as three lines in nearly every paper in your State. *N.B.*—Marry rich.

—\*—\*

A man with a clean collar in his coat pocket can go to the sea-shore and have more fun for three days than a woman with a saratoga.

—\*—\*

Beware of the man who always “gushes” over his friends. He would swear away their lives to save himself.

## REVERIES OF A PARAGRAPHER

Country ministers are usually paid for preaching funeral sermons. It must take a good deal to satisfy their conscience sometimes. People who live in the country know each other like books.

—\*—\*—

The most modest thing in the world is true merit.

—\*—\*—

When a man begins to go downhill he finds everything greased for the occasion, says a philosopher, who might have added that when he tries to climb up he finds everything greased for the occasion too.

—\*—\*—

No great poems have been written since the general introduction of the hand-organ.

—\*—\*—

Feet cannot protest when they are put into new shoes, but the shoes do—they squeak.

—\*—\*—

When a young man sees in the

## PROSY POSTULATIONS

column of "Help Wanted" a description of the kind of individual some firm would like to employ, his heart sinks within him at the thought that he cannot fill all the requirements, but when he comes to the salary which they are willing to pay "the first year," he is very glad he can't.

-x-x-x-

A disciple of Darwin once thought he had discovered the missing link, but he was grievously disappointed to find the thing was only a watering-place fop.

-x-x-x-

Honest labour is always respected in this country. When a humble individual hurries along a crowded street with a pot of paint in each hand, even the most haughty millionaires hasten to make room for him.

-x-x-x-

Mr Labouchere says: "We seldom have a really musical laugh except upon the stage." He complains that most girls make horrible faces when

## REVERIES OF A PARAGRAPHER

they laugh. Labouchere lives in London, where the atmosphere is either so damp or so smoky that people who indulge in a hearty laugh are in danger of strangulation. He should cross the ocean and hear the ringing laugh of a genuine American girl after some dull-brained "swell" has gone away under the impression that he has made another conquest.



Any man, however humble, can win the respect of his fellow-men. He has only to let it be known that he loves his wife and children, and is doing the best he can for them.



Avoid Biblical questions at social gatherings. It is very embarrassing to the host to have to spend a couple of hours hunting around the house for a Bible to settle disputed points with.



Boston ministers want to stop the

## PROSY POSTULATIONS

Sunday trains on the Tunnel road.  
The Puritan notion that kissing on  
Sunday is wicked has evidently not  
died out yet.

—\*—\*—

In another hundred years  
collectors of bric-à-brac will be ex-  
hibiting phonographs, telephone  
machines and electric light lamps  
which "came over in the *Mayflower*."

—\*—\*—

People who are very particular  
about unimportant details should  
remember that a locomotive is judged  
by its power and speed, not by the  
colour of its smoke stack and the  
tone of its bell.

—\*—\*—

The man who intends to buy a  
mine should examine the mineral,  
not the assay certificate. The man  
who intends to cast a vote should  
examine the record of the party, not  
its platform.

—\*—\*—

The bond of sympathy between

## REVERIES OF A PARAGRAPHER

mankind and the thermometer is easily explained. Thermometers have their ups and downs just the same as the rest of the world.

-x-x-x-

Philosophy is the art of giving hard names to the unknown and unknowable.

-x-x-x-

A monogram in America is better than a coronet anywhere else.

-x-x-x-

Many a man finds after marriage that he has been hugging a delusion.

-x-x-x-

Most of the self-made men of to-day were once jilted because they were poor.

-x-x-x-

It is said that a fresh onion cut and laid in cupboards and refrigerators will drive red ants away. Onion lovers should go to the ant, consider its ways, and be wise.

## PROSY POSTULATIONS

An English girl writes that no man will stare long at a woman who does not stare back. That sounds very well, but if she does not stare back how is she to know whether the man has stopped staring or not?

-x-x-x-

A Jackson (Mich.) deacon has been found "indiscreet" by a committee because he kissed a young lady under an umbrella. Next time he will be discreet enough to take a larger umbrella.

-x-x-x-

When the wise youth goeth a-courting he never loseth an opportunity of pretending to mistake the mother for the daughter.

-x-x-x-

Next to a cat, the hardest thing to kill is a confirmed inebriate.

-x-x-x-

The only way to stem the tide of intemperance is to persuade young men that whisky stunts the growth of moustaches.



## REVERIES OF A PARAGRAPHER

The cold-blooded cruelty of most murders is only equalled by the tenderness with which the murderers are treated after being caught.

-x-x-x-

A woman's best traits are not seen until she becomes a mother; her worst are hidden until she becomes a mother-in-law. The best traits are uppermost again when she becomes a grandmother.

-x-x-x-

When an expected letter does not arrive in time, how hard it is to refrain from suspecting the innocent carrier!

-x-x-x-

Mean men generally live long. Death don't want them any more than any one else.

-x-x-x-

When a woman objects to having her son get married, the natural supposition is that the loving mother knows what her own husband has had to go through with.

## PROSY POSTULATIONS

When a book is bright and entertaining, no one thinks of the cover. When homely men or women are good conversationalists, no one notices their personal appearance.

-x-x-x-

The people of a far western town bathe in the reservoir, and an attempt will be made to stop the practice, as the reservoir is so deep as to be dangerous.

-x-x-x-

One never realises how much useless waste there is until he sees two pretty girls kiss each other.

-x-x-x-

What this country needs is an elastic currency, something on the india-rubber principle, so that in cases of emergency a \$1.00 bill can be stretched into a ten.

-x-x-x-

Cincinnati claims that her ministers are generally homely, but it is suspected that this is only a bid for immigration.

## REVERIES OF A PARAGRAPHER

When regular physicians get over the silly idea that they should not advertise their whereabouts, the number of successful quacks will begin to decrease.



Square pianos are more popular than uprights. One can't lean on an upright piano and stare at the young lady playing, under pretence of listening to the music.



In crossing a field with a cow in it, the woman who hesitates is tossed.

## AFTER THOUGHTS.

MISFORTUNES are often blessings in disguise. A dog without a tail has no fear of a tin kettle.

—\*—\*—

The Liberal Christian remarks that "the Episcopal form supplies the lack of power in its ministers," to which the Episcopalians will probably retort that it is better to have the lack of power thus supplied than to permit mental weakness to wander along through rambling prayers, not only without form, but apparently without aim. There are two sides to every question, and some questions might just as well be avoided.

—\*—\*—

A poem by Burns, written on two panes of glass, is owned in London.

## REVERIES OF A PARAGRAPHER

This is a poem which people who know nothing of Scotch can easily see through.

—\*—\*—

Washington's birthday is the day that bank clerks observe.

—\*—\*—

When a professional humorist weeps at a funeral, all the other mourners laugh.

—\*—\*—

Furniture manufacturers are never so happy as when they can cut wood across the grain in making chair legs.

—\*—\*—

The reason Diogenes did not succeed was because he was looking for a non-est man.

—\*—\*—

It requires taste to make a suite of rooms look sweet.

—\*—\*—

If a mosquito bite thee on one hand, give him the other—palm downward.

## AFTER THOUGHTS

When a man who has overworked himself trying to keep body and soul together becomes ill, he goes to a physician and pays him for the information that he should knock off for a few years and take a trip or two around the world.

—\*—\*—\*—  
The trouble about the weather clerk is that when he gets a-going in any one direction he never knows when to stop.

—\*—\*—\*—  
The king of the Sandwich Islands is allowed \$6000 per year for stationery. Though he has never been to Congress, he is said to be a good judge of the different brands of stationery.

—\*—\*—\*—  
During a recent season at Saratoga a lady appeared in a different toilet every day for two weeks, with different jewellery to match. It is distressing to reflect that a woman who has so much to make her happy must some day go to a world where dressmakers are unknown.

## REVERIES OF A PARAGRAPHER

A captious critic pours out his vials of wrath in this splenetic fashion: "But between these two extremes is a vast army of girls who, apart from dressing, piano-playing, and making the most of their good looks, can do nothing, or next to it. Put them in a boat, and they are helpless. Put them in the water, they flounder and sink. Put them on a horse, and they fall off. Put them on their feet, they can't walk a mile unless 'out shopping.'" Nonsense! Make them believe that it is fashionable to row, swim, or ride horseback, and in a month's time they will out-row, out-swim, out-ride their critics any day in the year.



The faster a horse gets the more money he makes. It is different with a man.



The only thing that "swell" society regrets is that the revolutionary heroes had the bad taste to declare themselves independent of England.

## AFTER THOUGHTS

Rev. Mr Mackay of Pittsburg (Pa.) thinks nine out of ten newspaper men are infidels. He probably bases his opinion on the supposed influence which the number of clerical scandals they are obliged to wade through must have upon them ; but he is wrong in his conclusions. If you want to find honest, hard-working Christians, go into a newspaper office ; if you are after hypocrites, look elsewhere.



Robert Burns was a humorist as well as a poet, and that statue of him in Central Park, New York, is so faithful to the idea that it makes everybody laugh.



Tramps are always anxious for work, but they want to begin it at the next town.



Axle grease and lard, well mixed in equal proportions and rubbed on young trees, will protect them from



## REVERIES OF A PARAGRAPHER

rabbits. Very little need be used, as only the scent is necessary. If you have no axle grease and lard handy, use boarding-house butter.

-x-x-x-

Post no bills—without having the letter registered.

-x-x-x-

The man whose face is exposed to the wintry wind is apt to look blew.

-x-x-x-

Almost anything can be preserved in alcohol, except health, happiness, and money.

-x-x-x-

The man who invented a necktie big enough to cover up the shirt front knew what it was to be dunned by a washerwoman.

-x-x-x-

It is impossible to keep a small boy in the house, even in the worst weather, unless he has a sister to torment.

## AFTER THOUGHTS

Life is too short to waste words. The word "obey" should be stricken out of the Marriage Service. It is of no use.

—\*—\*—

Genius has the poetic picturesqueness of a mountain brook ; talent, the commercial usefulness of a great river.

—\*—\*—

Edmund Yates says of Englishmen, "We play as we work—in earnest." This accounts for the deep earnestness of the London comic papers.

—\*—\*—

Some of the young women occasionally seen in city streets act like 60 and dress like 40. *For*te means loud.

—\*—\*—

The marriage state is well enough, but the divorce state is ill.

—\*—\*—

Truth crushed to earth will rise again if the small boy is around when company comes.

## REVERIES OF A PARAGRAPHER

Some opera-glasses are made to look through, but most of them are made to look at.

—♦—♦—♦—

Women who desire to pursue a course at Harvard College are only expected to pass the ordinary college examination, proficiency in baseball and rowing not required.

—♦—♦—♦—

In the portrait of Mrs Hayes placed in the White House by her temperance friends as a mentor to all who succeed her, she appears in a wine-coloured dress. The painting is not in water colours either.

—♦—♦—♦—

A Norfolk man has invented a gas meter with a price indicator attached, which shows in dollars and cents the amount due for gas, but what this world wants is a gas bill meeter.

—♦—♦—♦—

Nothing is more attractive than a

#### AFTER THOUGHTS

pretty woman's face half hidden  
behind a fan, except a pretty  
woman's face not hidden at all.

-x-x-x-

Dresses are now made so short  
that street crossings are seldom  
clean.

-x-x-x-

No Englishwoman is regarded as  
beautiful until after the Prince of  
Wales has stared at her.

-x-x-x-

The new idea of having two rings  
in one circus tent must have origin-  
ated with a cross-eyed manager.

-x-x-x-

It is 1,440 years since archery was  
first introduced into England, yet  
archery clubs still require a mark as  
big as a barn door.

-x-x-x-

Nature believes in the unities, as  
seen by the fact that a man that  
is down at the heel is generally down  
in the mouth.

## REVERIES OF A PARAGRAPHER

The prayers of one hundred and fifty clergymen congregated together in Tennessee for rain was followed by two weeks of the dryest sort of dry weather. Too many cooks spoil the broth.



Orang-outangs, when taken to climes different from their own, invariably die of consumption. Climbs on cage-poles are certainly very different from the climbs in their native forests.

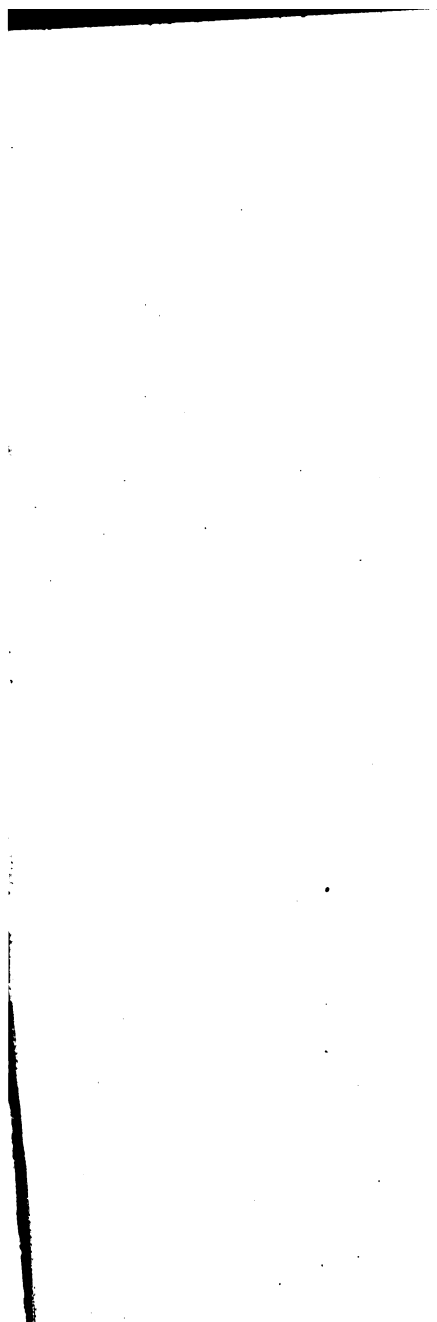


Happiness is a well-balanced combination of love, labour, and luck.

FINIS.



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